

VIEWING 34
PUSHES THE
E BUTTON ON
IS TELEVISION

IMF chief
reluctant
to cash in
any gold
reserves

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHING
IN WASHINGTON

MICHAEL Camdessus, managing director of the IMF, has expressed scepticism about a proposal by Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, that it will use some of its gold reserves to help fund future lending.

Mr Camdessus said the reserves were one of the fund's main strengths, and that such strength would be even more vital in the next century. He said he would hesitate to support a conservative stance on the subject.

But the divisions over the future of the gold reserves resurfaced on Saturday, when Lewis E. Brown, president of the World Bank, suggested that the matter was "worth a look".

The debate over the reserves comes amid a search for a successor to one of the IMF's main "soft-loan" instruments, the so-called enhanced structural adjustment facility, which runs out in November. Western shareholders' objections prove reluctant to put up increased funds at a time of budgetary constraints.

In 1991, the IMF held 22 tonnes of gold, which was part of its reserve assets but gold cannot be used as part of the fund's operations under its present constitutional arrangements.

The Esaf is one of several instruments available to the IMF. Its total potential is \$6 billion, and requires that recipients enact tough and strictly monitored adjustment policies. In their communiqué, the IMF governors called on the board to look for a successor and to "consider" the options for financing the successor facility.

The governors also addressed other issues, including the need to reduce budget deficits and to embark on other aspects of structural economic reform. The board called on European governments to enact structural policies "to achieve a substantial and lasting reduction in the unacceptably high level of unemployment". It also suggested that "bold measures" will need to be taken to ensure labour markets more flexible.

The IMF welcomed the European growth initiative, which was taken at the Edinburgh summit last week, as well as Japan's recent billion stimulus package and President Clinton's economic reduction programme.

The development of the IMF and the World Bank has called on the fund and developing countries to enhance the private sector flow of funds and investment to the developing world. It said host countries should take main responsibility for creating an attractive environment for investors.

Shaking the trees...
p down
ie Link

ive of Kleinwort
City merchant bank
a boardroom
follows the appointment
Lord Rockley as chairman
Lord Rockley was
David Peake's
February, but off
over after the bank
meeting on Wednesday.
Mr Agnew, 52, has
job since 1987.
was the bank's first
director with £570,000.
Since he took
firm's ambition
an integrated merchant
and securities house
less than successful
has presided over
reorganisation and
ing. In 1990, Kleinwort
568 million after
losses of £35 million
29.9 per cent stake in
Oil.

Recently, Kleinwort
ferred a number of
finance departments
was not picked as
investment bank
market this summer
billion government
share sale worldwide
500 institutional
Mr Agnew is
in the summer
is searching for
move the group

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BERNARD LEVIN

Trial by jury: case
for the defence

The layman's view, page 16

FESTIVALS OF BRITAIN

Music, drama, fun:
the essential guide

12-page supplement

VICTORIA GLENDINNING

Memo to Churchill:
join the world

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LAW ON
TUESDAY
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THE TIMES

No. 64,635

TUESDAY MAY 4 1993

45p



Tories come out fighting: Lord Archer, putting some punch into the campaign yesterday when he joined Julian Davidson, right, the Conservative candidate in Thursday's Newbury by-election, at a raft race near Hungerford. The Tories, who also fielded Michael Heseltine yesterday, are defending a majority of 12,357. Report, page 2

US set to put 25,000 troops into Bosnia

BY IAN BRODIE IN
WASHINGTON, AND
NICHOLAS WOOD,
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PRESIDENT Clinton, despite promises not to involve US ground troops, yesterday began softening up American public opinion to send up to 25,000 troops to Bosnia-Herzegovina as part of a United Nations-sanctioned Nato peacekeeping force. Britain is expected to contribute 10,000 troops.

As Bosnian Serb shelling of Muslim towns continued, even after the weekend Athens peace accords, Britain joined the US and France in brushing aside warnings by Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, that threats of Western intervention could cause the Bosnian Serb's self-appointed parliament to reject the Vance-Owen plan when it meets tomorrow.

American officials said that having signed the plan in

■ The Bosnian Serb assembly looks set to reject the Athens peace accord tomorrow, but Nato is going ahead with plans to police the deal with a force of 70,000 men

Athens on Sunday, Mr Karadzic would be held to it.

Nato has plans for a military force of between 65,000 and 75,000 UN-sanctioned peacekeepers. Until now the White House has given repeated assurances that no American ground troops would be sent to Bosnia.

Mr Clinton explained that he was still not interested in sending American soldiers into combat but there would have to be US participation in the peacekeeping force. He said: "We're prepared to support a United Nations effort, heavily engaged in by the Europeans, to enforce a peace."

He also promised that before he committed US forces for any purpose he would speak to the American people about what he intended to do and why.

Vice-President Al Gore said the US had still made no firm commitment on numbers of

troops nor how they would be used in a peaceful role.

France proposed that the UN Security Council act quickly to endorse the plan before the Serb parliament meets. It suggested the council pass a short resolution welcoming the fact that all three warring sides have now signed, demanding an end to hostilities, and asking the secretary-general to draft a plan for implementing the accord. Western sources said it would take Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, between seven and 10 days to prepare such a plan outlining how many peacekeeping troops would be needed.

With Sir Nicholas Bonsor, chairman of the Commons defence committee, saying Britain would have to contribute 10,000 troops, John Major and Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, came under pressure to halt planned man-

power cutbacks and regimental amalgamations. Labour and Liberal Democrat spokesmen warned that the army would be stretched beyond breaking point if it had to take on such a big extra long-term burden in addition to its duties in trouble spots such as Northern Ireland.

The Clinton administration yesterday kept up pressure for international military action if the Karadzic pledge were broken, including air strikes against the Bosnian Serbs and lifting the arms embargo for Bosnian Muslims. But Serb hardliners reiterated opposition to the peace plan.

Momcilo Krajisnik, speaker of the self-styled parliament that has twice rejected the Vance-Owen plan, said: "I do not believe the plan is conducive to a final settlement of the crisis. It must be revised or rejected."

Ratko Adzic, Bosnia's Serb minister of the interior, said: "Serbs must not yield a foot of territory they now hold."

In London, Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, consulted Javier Solana and Michalis Papacostantinou, the Spanish and Greek foreign ministers, before going on to Paris last night. He said:

"I've been very determined that we should move forward to turn this aggression back. This means dealing quite resolutely with the Serbs."

Edouard Balladur, the French prime minister, said he hoped for a common Franco-British approach when he meets Mr Major in London today, but indicated France was reluctant to support allied bombings.

Mr Clinton's press secretary, Dee Dee Myers, said: "We've ruled out US ground troops under any circumstances — except perhaps in implementation of a mutually agreed treaty."

Mr Clinton demands that the Serbs lift the siege of Sarajevo halt their efforts to stop relief convoys, and obey a ceasefire. He said Western allies had agreed to "keep the pressure up and have a united front."

In Bosnia five people were killed and dozens wounded yesterday in Serb shelling of Sarajevo, and a further six were killed in Muslim-held Gorazde. Sporadic clashes between Muslims and Croats were also reported.

Bottomley challenged in court

BY IAN MURRAY

GOVERNMENT lawyers are studying the case of a father of two children, suffering from a rare disease, who has been given leave to take Virginia Bottomley to court. Barry Daniels wants to force the health secretary to reopen the only special unit prepared to carry out an operation that might save his son's life.

Mr Daniels, from Epping, has been granted legal aid to ask the High Court to quash the minister's decision, which closed the unit at the Westminster Children's Hospital on April 1. Last Thursday Mr Justice Poplewell gave leave for a judicial review against the minister and the North-west Thames and the North-east Thames health authorities.

The legal battle is part of a race against time. Charly, five, the boy's sister, is already showing symptoms of the disease, which causes dementia and blindness. Specialists have said that she is unlikely to live more than another two years and that there is no known treatment for her.

Research suggests, however, that a bone-marrow transplant for her brother stands a 50 per cent chance of preventing the illness from taking hold. The operation must be carried out before symptoms appear.

NHS fears, page 9

Foreign Office export advice service may be privatised

BY MICHAEL DYNES, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

A KEY part of the Foreign Office could be privatised in a government campaign to make the diplomatic service more efficient, senior Whitehall sources have disclosed.

British embassies in Germany, France and Belgium have been instructed to find out whether market research companies can provide better reports on export opportunities for British companies than those drafted by the diplomatic service.

Each of the embassies has commissioned ten market reports from private sector consultancies and banks, in an experiment costing £50,000. In addition, embassy staff are drafting duplicate reports, which a panel of Treasury officials and business executives will compare for price and quality.

Foreign Office officials are eager to comply with the government's efficiency drive in the hope that it will postpone the threat of deeper cuts in the forthcoming public expenditure round.

The experiment is part of the government's ambitious market-testing programme, an initiative seen by its supporters as a type of shock therapy for a civil service seen as having gone soft, to find out whether the private sector can take on functions traditionally carried out by the government sector.

Under the scheme, £1.5 billion worth of government work across Whitehall departments is to be market-tested by September, an exercise covering 44,000 civil service posts. Officials insist that the September deadline is a target, not a timetable.

But thousands of civil servants could find their jobs contracted out to private sector companies as the market-

testing initiative gains momentum.

Since the creation in 1991 of the overseas trade services unit, a joint Foreign Office and trade and industry department body responsible for export promotion, Britain's business community has had to pay for government market reports covering everything from opportunities for reconstruction projects in Kuwait to prospects for consumer durables in Vietnam.

Fears have been expressed, however, that private sector surveys would cost significantly more than those provided by "official channels," and could deter many companies from commissioning them. As a result, Britain could lose valuable export opportunities.

British companies typically pay up to £300 for a market information enquiry, which will identify export prospects for particular goods and services, and up to £1,000 for the export representative service, which will put companies in touch with potential agents or distributors abroad. The service earns about £1 million a year, which is handed over to the Treasury. Britain exports about 25 per cent of its gross domestic product, compared with Japan's 11 per cent.

Ian Campbell, director-general of the Institute of Export, a private sector organisation founded in 1935, said of the Whitehall plans: "We have very serious reservations about this initiative. It has taken us the best part of ten years to get the Foreign Office to abandon its traditional attitude that tradesmen should use the back door and start working for Britain's commercial interests."

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Letters, page 17

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Man charged over bomb in minicab

BY STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A 22-YEAR-OLD man will appear in court today charged with trying to bomb Downing Street using a device left in a minicab hours after the IRA's massive Bishopsgate blast in the City of London last month.

John Gerrard Mathews, unemployed, was charged yesterday by detectives from Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch and will appear today at the magistrates court at Arbour Square, east London. He is accused of causing an explosion at Judd Street near King's Cross on April 24.

The Judd Street bomb was one of two car bombs which exploded on the evening after the Bishopsgate blast which left one man dead.

Linley announces engagement to heiress

BY A STAFF REPORTER



Royal betrothal: Viscount Linley with Serena Stanhope yesterday. They will marry in the autumn

VISCOUNT Linley, 31, the Queen's nephew and twelfth in line to the throne, has announced his engagement to Serena Stanhope, 23, daughter of Viscount Petersham and heiress to one of Britain's larger fortunes. The Queen, whose permission was needed for the match, has given her consent.

The date and place for the wedding have yet to be arranged, although the ceremony will be in London in the autumn and the reception is likely to be in St James's Palace.

The couple's names have been linked since they were photographed at a beach club in Monte Carlo in July. This year they spent ten days in Moustique with Princess Margaret, the viscount's mother, and were pictured riding with the Queen at Windsor over

Easter. The Earl of Snowdon, Lord Linley's father, said yesterday that he and the princess were delighted with news of the engagement.

The couple posed briefly for photographs yesterday in Lord Linley's furniture shop in Fulham, west London. Miss Stanhope was not wearing her engagement ring, an antique diamond mounted in gold, surrounded by 16 cut diamonds set in silver.

Like Lord Linley, Miss Stanhope comes from a broken marriage. In 1983 her mother, Virginia Freeman Jackson, a former showjumping champion, divorced Lord Petersham, who has remarried.

Miss Stanhope was educated at St Mary's Church of England School in Wantage, Oxfordshire. She works in public relations for Armani, the Italian clothes designer.

Civil servants fear Iraq arms disclosures will wreck careers

MICHAEL DYNES, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

CIVIL servants fear that evidence they give to Lord Justice Scott's judicial enquiry into arms-related exports to Iraq could damage their prospects for promotion.

The unprecedented public hearings into allegations that ministers and officials secretly connived to re-arm Iraq, in violation of the government's official guidelines, begin today with evidence from Sir Richard Luce, a former Foreign Office minister.

Sir Richard will be questioned about arms export guidelines which came into effect in October 1985.

The guidelines, drawn up in the middle of the Iran-Iraq war by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the former foreign secretary, were designed to ensure that Britain exported nothing to the combatants which would "significantly enhance" their military strength.

Despite assurances from Sir Robin Butler, the head of the home civil service, that there will be no disciplinary proceedings against officials who give evidence of ministerial "wrong-doing", civil servants who will also be called to give evidence are anxious, nonetheless, that their actions could damage their careers.

Secret documents disclosed during last year's Old Bailey trial of three executives of Matrix Churchill, the Coventry-based machine tool manufacturer, showed that the Howe guidelines had been "diluted" between December 1987 and November 1989 in the run-up to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in August 1990.

They also showed, with testimony extracted from Alan Clark, the former defence minister, that allegedly proscribed machine tool exports had been approved by trade, defence, Foreign Office ministers and civil servants who knew from intelligence reports

that the equipment would be used to provide Iraq with an independent armaments manufacturing capability.

The £3 million trial collapsed in November amid an outcry over the attempt by ministers to use public interest immunity certificates to suppress some 500 pages of documents showing government knowledge and encouragement of the export trade.

Setting up the judicial enquiry, John Major said that Lord Justice Scott would be free to examine every aspect of the arms-related export trade, including the Matrix Churchill affair, the Iraqi supergun project, the sale of all other dual-use technologies, and ministers' use of public interest immunity certificates. In addition, Mr Major said that if necessary, powers of subpoena would be granted.

Last month, Lord Justice Scott granted a blanket immunity to ministers and civil servants from the threat of criminal prosecutions arising out of evidence given to the enquiry, in an effort to conduct "a full and frank examination" of Britain's role in the arms-related export trade.

John Major, Baroness Thatcher, Mr Clark, William Waldegrave, who was the Foreign Office minister when discussions took place between the three Whitehall departments about relaxing the Howe guidelines, and Sir Robin Butler, are all expected to give evidence to the enquiry.

Evidence from Sir Richard Luce, who is currently vice-chancellor of Buckingham University, will be followed by testimony from Stephen Day, who was head of the Foreign Office's Middle East department until 1987, the year when Matrix Churchill first applied for export licences.

Diary, page 16



Overcome with grief: friends and relatives of the murder victims leave Luton Magistrates' Court yesterday

Uproar as man is accused of murders

VIOLENT scenes erupted in court yesterday as a man aged 21 was charged with the murder of Marina Turvey, a young Luton woman, and her baby daughter.

The husband, John Turvey, had to be held back as he lunged from the public gallery towards the dock at the town's magistrates' court where

David Edwards was standing. Mr Turvey, 24, shouted abuse at the accused as two charges of murder and one of attempted murder were read out. Other relatives sat crying and shaking with emotion.

Mr Edwards, also of Luton, Bedfordshire, was charged with murdering 19-year-old Mrs Turvey and her daughter

Charlene, seven months old, on Friday.

Mrs Turvey was shot in Milton Road, Luton, and her daughter's body was later found three miles away. Mr Edwards was also charged with attempting to murder Mr Turvey and was remanded in custody until May 10.

As he was being led away, a

brother of Mrs Turvey attempted to reach Mr Edwards and shouted threats at him. He was restrained by relatives.

After the hearing, family and friends of Mr Edwards left the court hurriedly, trying to conceal their faces. Some of the family and friends of the dead had to be led from the court weak from emotion.

Newbury by-election

Ashdown makes contest a test of economic policy

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PADDY Ashdown last night tried to turn the Newbury by-election into a vote of no confidence in Norman Lamont, the Chancellor.

With two days to go before polling, the Liberal Democrats stepped up the pressure to overturn the Tory majority of 12,357.

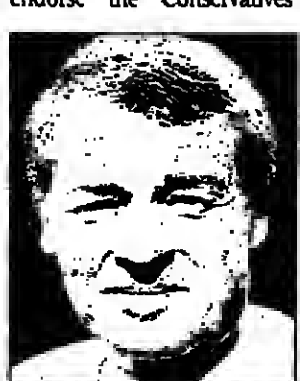
Mr Ashdown urged the public to force the Chancellor to pay the price for mishandling the economy over the past 12 months. As the Tories unleashed their biggest gun — Michael Heseltine — on the hustings, Mr Ashdown, buoyed by Sunday's NOP telephone poll putting his party in the lead, said: "A Liberal Democrat victory will mean the days of Norman Lamont are numbered."

Nothing the government had done over the past 12 months had tackled the long-term weaknesses that beset the British economy, nor had it set Britain on the road to a long-term sustainable recovery. "Let's face it — if you devalue by 20 per cent and cut interest rates by half — you'd expect some signs of economic life six months later even if you'd Groucho Marx as prime minister and Ken Dodd as Chancellor of the Exchequer."

While Mr Heseltine and the Tory candidate, Julian Davidson, continued to talk up the economy, the Liberal Democrat leader delivered a hard-hitting speech warning Newbury voters that if they supported Mr Davidson they would be endorsing the government's record over the past 12 months. As signs emerged that the Tories were losing ground in Newbury Mr

Ashdown said the public could vote for David Rendel, his party's candidate, who would take the message to Westminster that the British people were not happy with the government's performance or its policies.

"Or you can send this Conservative government the message that however many mistakes it makes, it will never have to pay the price," Mr Ashdown said. "A vote for the Conservatives will be used to endorse the Conservatives' record of the last year."



Ashdown: "No signs of economic life"

Meanwhile Mr Heseltine tried to stir the Tory faithful into turning up at polling booths on Thursday by insisting that Britain "has a chance to win". Continuing the theme on the economy that dominated last week's campaigning, Mr Heseltine said the government had worked hard to win the essentials of economic success. "We are pulling out of the world recession ahead of the field," he said at a public meeting. "We have low infla-

tion, low interest rates, a competitive currency, good industrial relations and growing production." Survey after survey pointed to rising order books and increasing confidence. "We will not achieve that success unless we work for it and believe in it. We can grasp it under Conservative leadership."

Earlier both John Patten, the education secretary, and Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare visited Newbury to lend their support to Mr Davidson. However, Lord Archer made the mistake of shaking the hands of journalists rather than the public.

Both the leading contenders in Newbury claimed the race was much tighter than the telephone survey by NOP suggested. However, it was evident that the Tories had begun to lose heart. Mr Davidson did not canvass on Sunday or yesterday.

Mr Rendel, however, could barely keep the grin off his face, insisting: "I know we can win on Thursday." Liberal Democrat officials said that the gap between the Conservatives and the Liberals had narrowed considerably, with many of those who last week were undecided now committing themselves to support Mr Rendel. However, the officials would not admit that the Liberal Democrats were now in the lead.

□ 1992 general election: J. Chaplin (C) 37,135; D. Rendel (Lib Dem) 24,778; R. Hall (L) 3,962; J. Wallis (Green) 530. Con majority 12,357.

Woodrow Wyatt, page 16

Royal visit allows Hungary to celebrate state's rebirth

By ALAN HAMILTON

THE Queen flies to Budapest today to begin a four-day state visit to Hungary. Apart from a day spent in the eastern part of unified Germany last year, this is the first time the British monarch has set foot in a former Warsaw Pact nation.

Accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, the Queen will be given star treatment by a nation that is historically monarchist, but which has seen off crowned heads since the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian empire in 1918. The highlight of her visit will be an address to the Hungarian parliament in its majestic building on the Danube, which has florid Gothic echoes of Westminster.

Addresses to parliaments other than her own are rare events for the Queen, with the US Congress and the European Parliament at Strasbourg her only other recent appearances. The welcome being accorded her is an indication of Hungary's strong desire to make its future in western Europe, although its shaky economy is still a

long way from being acceptable for full EC membership.

The royal visit is the culmination of more than 70 high-level exchanges between the two countries in the past three years, an indication of British and EC desire to welcome Hungary at least as an associate member of the west European club. Baroness Thatcher visited Budapest when prime minister in 1990, as did the Prince and Princess of Wales. John Major was there last year, and the Duke of Edinburgh has been a regular visitor over many years to participate in carriage-driving competitions. High-level military exchanges have also taken place in the past year, signalling Hungary's desire to become a member of Nato.

Trade with Hungary remains modest: British exports there last year totalled only £162 million. More significantly, the BBC Hungarian service from Bush House is now broadcast on FM frequency, and has a devoted and growing listenership.

During her visit, however,

the Queen will see nothing of Hungary's most pressing problem, the huge number of refugees that have flooded in from Romania and the former Yugoslavia, three quarters of them women and children. Official estimates indicate that Hungary, with a population of only 10 million, has already absorbed 200,000 legally admitted refugees, plus an unknown number of illegal entrants.

Last October, Hungary drew international criticism for tightening its entry regulations. Since then, more than one million potential refugees have been turned back, and 30,000 illegal immigrants caught and deported.

The Queen may see from a distance Hungary's most urgent environmental problem, the drastic reduction in the flow of the Danube, once blue but now dirty brown, because of the diversion of the river upstream in Slovakia for a hydroelectric project. Hungary claims that the river flow is now at best not more than one third of what it used to be.

Britons held since 1991 are given court date

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID AND KATE ALDERSON

THREE Welshmen held without trial for almost two years in Spain are due to appear in a Barcelona court tomorrow charged with attempted murder.

The Foreign Office was forced to intervene in the case after the men's families and civil rights groups complained about delays in bringing the case to trial.

The men, Jamie Humphreys, 19, Alan Sell, 25, and his brother Paul, 23, are charged with stabbing a Turkish tourist on the Costa Brava in May 1991. As disclosed in *The Times* last

month, the case has been postponed twice in the last six months, the first time because the alleged victim, Celik Bilet, failed to undergo a medical examination before the hearing, and later because the victim and a Turkish witness failed to attend court.

A spokesman from the British consul said last night that the long delay had been mostly due to the complex legal work involved in obtaining statements from all those involved in the alleged attack, none of whom live in Spain.

Human rights groups and Welsh politicians put pressure on the Foreign Office to intervene in the case, claiming that the men's imprisonment and the

delay in bringing them to trial breached the United Nations Covenant on Human Rights. Wayne David, Labour MEP for South Wales, said the evidence against the men was flimsy and the delays were inexcusable.

Rhodri Morgan, Labour MP for Cardiff West, described the Spanish justice system as third rate, adding: "There seems to be an acceptance there that it is stuck in the Middle Ages." He said a "wave of anger will sweep over South Wales if the men's trial is further postponed, an anger which will no doubt lead to a decline in tourism to the country".

David Sell, brother of Alan and

Paul, who lives in Cardiff, said he was not optimistic that the case would go ahead.

"The Foreign Office say they are poised to intervene, but we've heard that for the last two years," he said. "Alan spoke to our mother last week and he too holds out little hope. My brothers have been unable to give their version of events for two years."

Delays of 18 months are commonplace for those awaiting trial in Spain. Last week, Clemente Auger, president of the National Court in Madrid, admitted that there were 24,000 lawsuits pending against the government in his department alone.

NEWS IN BRIEF

House prices survive Easter slowdown

The housing market has turned the corner, new figures from the Nationwide building society will show this week. Although the strong recovery in March was not improved upon in April, the survey shows that prices held their own, despite the Easter break (Rachel Kelly writes). Roger Humber, of the House Builders Federation, said that sales since Easter had been higher than at any time this year.

Prices rose in March by 1 per cent compared with February, according to Nationwide. Builders, lenders and estate agents confirm that the pick-up was sustained in April. The Easter break effectively slowed the progress of recovery because mortgages, surveys and local authority searches took longer to arrange and people were on holiday.

Prices had maintained their levels in most parts of the country, Mr Humber said, and were likely to increase. "In the first two weeks of the month, sales dipped and we were quite concerned. But after Easter things picked up and we had a very busy two weeks, with higher levels of sales than at any other time during the first quarter."

Mortgage sale plan, page 40

Hume offers talks

John Hume, the SDLP leader, yesterday made a new offer to talk to Loyalist paramilitaries in Northern Ireland. He told BBC Radio Ulster that he was prepared to meet them on the same basis as the private discussions he was having with Gerry Adams, the Sinn Féin president.

□ The RUC yesterday denied any collusion by security forces with the Loyalist paramilitary killers of Alan Lundy, 39, a Sinn Féin member, who was shot dead in Andersonstown, West Belfast, on Saturday night.

Transplant woman dies

A woman who underwent two heart-lung transplants and a lung transplant has died. Nikola Lee, 20, suffered a heart attack in her sleep at her home in Preston, Lancashire. Her mother Maureen said that she had turned down the chance of a fourth transplant operation because she wanted to give someone else the chance to live. Miss Lee had her last operation at Harefield Hospital, northwest London, in December 1991. She underwent the first heart-lung transplant in 1986 at the age of 13.

Actor defends violence

Sean Connery has claimed that some women want to be hit. "That's what they're looking for, the ultimate confrontation — they want a smack," the Scottish actor said in a magazine interview. He expected women to be "gentler and quieter" than him and was unrepentant about his chauvinist image, particularly where golf was concerned. "At the club where I play, there's a men's bar and a mixed bar. Women don't go into the men's bar. I think that's perfectly normal. I like a men's bar where I can sit and talk only with men. It's harmless, really. It's just like bonding." The 62-year-old star told *Vanity Fair*. In 1965, he told *Playboy* that there was nothing "particularly wrong" in a man hitting a woman.

Twitchers have field day

Bird watchers have been kept on the hop over the past few days as rare birds from around the world flew in. The biggest surprise, according to the Bird Information Service, was a black-throated thrush thousands of miles from its nesting territory in central Asia, spotted near Lydd, in Kent. Also reported in Kent were cattle egrets, an alpine swift and a sub-alpine warbler. White storks were seen in West Sussex and Devon, purple herons in Norfolk and Staffordshire, and an Arctic gyrfalcon in the green glens of Antrim.

Woman jockey hurt

A woman jockey was unconscious in hospital last night after falling from her horse at the second hurdle in the 24-mile South West Racing Club novices race at Haldon racecourse in Devon. Jenny Waring, 32, whose husband trains horses at Wellington, Somerset, was flown to hospital with head injuries. Last night, her condition was still being assessed.

£5 crown issued



A £5 coronation anniversary crown, above, goes into circulation today featuring the head of the uncrowned Queen as she appeared on her first coins 40 years ago. The crown commemorates the Coronation in Westminster Abbey on June 2, 1953. The Royal Mint has also produced collector coins in 22-carat gold and sterling silver.

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حکومت الاصل

survive own

Some new figures from wall show this week, which was not improved by prices held their own. Kelly writes. Roger Terrell, said that sales at any time this year. cent compared with Builders, lenders and 3-4p was sustained in slowed the progress of 75 and local authority people were on holiday, as in most parts of the likely to increase. "In les dipped and we were things picked up and we ter levels of sales than e- ter. sale plan, page 4.

alks

Today made a new offer Northern Ireland. He prepared to meet their questions he was having resident. y-collusion by security killers of Alan Lunn, o was shot dead at night.

man dies

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violence

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reign Office say the nerve, but with e last two years e to our mother, e holds out little hope ve been unable to g- vents for two years f 18 months are case awaiting trial in Clemente Auger, p- tional Court in M- that there were nding against the e- department alone.

Some new figures from wall show this week, which was not improved by prices held their own. Kelly writes. Roger Terrell, said that sales at any time this year. cent compared with Builders, lenders and 3-4p was sustained in slowed the progress of 75 and local authority people were on holiday, as in most parts of the likely to increase. "In les dipped and we were things picked up and we ter levels of sales than e- ter. sale plan, page 4.

Branson the hippy hero flies across the generation gap

By MICHAEL MCCARTHY

RICHARD Branson, airline chairman and pop music tycoon, has bridged the generation gap as a role model, a survey has found.

He is a hero both to British children and to their parents, according to a survey by the TSB bank — and the first to achieve this since the 1950s, when the coming of rock and roll gave young people heroes their parents hated.

The buccaneering hippy capitalist, whose latest venture is his own radio station, launched last week, appeals to all ages because he has done the seemingly impossible and put fun into big business, according to the bank's study of the aspirations of "Major's Children", young people growing up in the 1990s.

The survey found that a big majority of 12-year-olds, 16-year-olds and their parents all put Mr Branson top of their list when asked: "Who do you feel you most need to be like to get on in life?" Mr Branson was rated ahead of the comedian Lenny Henry, Anita Roddick of the Body Shop, John Major, Margaret Thatcher and even of that most tireless promoter of self-advancement, Arthur Daley.

The pop stars Madonna and Prince and the fashion model Naomi Campbell were even further down the list.

David Lewis, a psychologist and marketing consultant to

■ Teenagers and their parents are united in their choice of a hero for the first time since the advent of rock and roll

TSB, said yesterday that Mr Branson's appeal lay in the F-factor — combining fame and fortune with fun. "He's done two seemingly impossible things," he said. "Firstly, he's achieved a consensus between parents and young people as to who is an appropriate role model and, secondly, he's made big business seem exciting and sexy. Until he came along, most young people regarded industry as less exciting than doing a double period of maths, and industrial leaders as less glamorous than the school caretaker."

Until the 1950s, Dr Lewis said, there was a consensus between parents and children as to appropriate role models, with someone such as Churchill a hero to all, but when rock and roll and youth culture arrived there was a parting of the ways, with parents and children split over figures such as James Dean, Marlon Brando and Elvis Presley.

"I think it is fair to say that, for the first time since rock and roll arrived in Britain, parents and children now have the same hero," Dr Lewis said. He added that Mr Branson's appeal was many-sided. He was not seen to "rip people off", but as an ethical businessman.

To adults, he appeared in his recent struggle with British Airways as a David taking on a goliath. To young people, he was someone who could succeed without many qualifications. (Mr Branson left Stowe at 16.) He was a family man, as well as an adventurer. "He takes hot air balloons across the Pacific he's Biggles in blue jeans," Dr Lewis said.

Most of all, his appeal lay in his sense of fun. "John Major may represent fame and fortune, but I don't think anybody would call him fun, psychologically," Dr Lewis said. Asked if he thought Mr Branson was an appropriate role model, he replied: "I can think of many worse."

The survey also showed that all the 16-year-olds interviewed intended to leave school this year and all had a job in mind — but half feared that they would not be able to secure it. Unemployment was the issue that scared 12 and 16-year-olds more than anything else.

Dr Lewis said: "Children see luck playing a much smaller part in their lives. Hopefully, they will be sufficiently realistic to realise they will not all make it to the position of Richard Branson."

Travellers stay put as trippers set out

By ROBIN STACEY

POLICE yesterday went about their traditional bank holiday task of keeping tabs on gatherings of New Age travellers and their vehicles, which this time were centred on the north Cotswolds.

The hippies were concentrated in two main camps of 40 vehicles each at Dowdeswell and Brockworth in Gloucestershire, with a further 50 vehicles spread over a number of smaller camps.

Gloucestershire police, who laid on reinforcements from four neighbouring forces and four helicopters, said there were "no problems".

Their aim was to prevent a repeat of last year, when thousands of travellers staged an illegal "festival" camp at Castlemorton, Hereford and Worcester, shattering the tranquillity of neighbouring villages.

Hippies and others had to endure a chilly start to the day, with weathermen reporting an overnight frost, particularly in Wales, the west of England and Scotland. Meteorological Office advice to gardeners was

not to put out bedding plants for the time being.

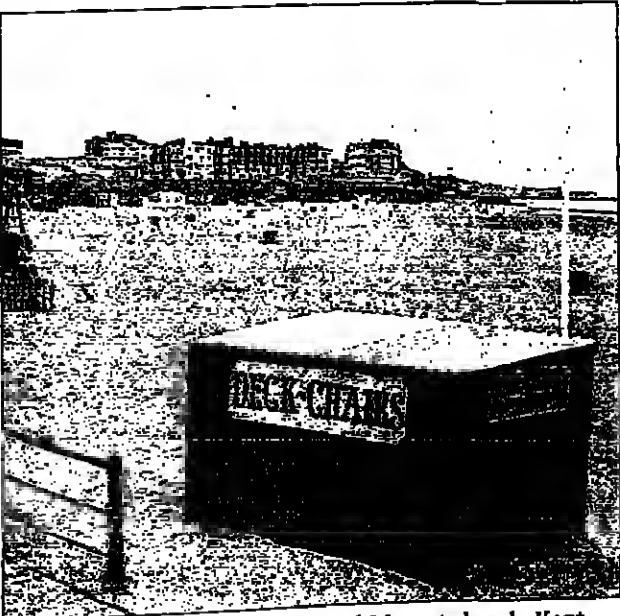
Thousands of would-be gardeners took to the roads instead. Police in Cumbria reported large numbers of cars building up around the Lake District beauty spots by mid-morning. Traffic was particularly heavy around Windermere.

In North Yorkshire, there were long tail-backs on the A64 near Tadcaster as thousands of motorists heading for the east coast resorts were delayed by a minor accident.

In Lancashire, police said morning traffic heading for Blackpool was lighter than usual, but they expected a build-up later in the day as day trippers decided to take advantage of the sunshine.

In Surrey, a fire which ravaged two miles of heathland and destroyed timber outbuildings in and around the Bisley army camp was finally extinguished yesterday, three days after it started.

Forecast, page 20



No takers: an early chill cleared Margate beach, Kent

Animators draw on cultural heritage

By ALISON ROBERTS
ARTS REPORTER

CARTOONS are salvaging the pride of Britain's tiling industry by gaining big interest from American television stations.

The networks are eager to buy cartoons that are based on British culture rather than superheroes. *Shakespeare — the Animated Tales*, produced by S4C of Wales and the BBC with smaller companies, has been sold to Home Box Office in America. *The World of Peter Rabbit and Friends*, nearing completion by TV Cartoons, has been bought by another American network.

It is 25 years since the debut of the seminal British animated film, *Yellow Submarine*, and the first British Animation Week, held at the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London this week, is providing a showcase for animators. Christopher Grace, director of marketing at S4C, said cartoons were increasingly seen as an art form, for children and adults, which tapped a "great European cultural heritage."

"I like to think that the Shakespeare series challenges something like Disney as art that can be scheduled on TV networks," he said. Mike Robinson, chairman of the Guild of British Animation, said: "What I call European folk tale cartoons are now beginning to be mainstream."

The success is largely due to support from television companies. Channel 4 spends £1 million a year on animated films, but at a cost of £100,000 for 30 minutes of film this does not go far. Producers at the ICA event are seeking reassurances from the new ITV stations that they will not sacrifice animation for cheaper programmes such as game shows.

Vice girls take to the hills

A CITY'S prostitutes are being invited for a day's canoeing and rock climbing in rugged Welsh mountains in the hope that the change of environment will boost their self-esteem.

Posters offering the women "A taste of adventure" in the Brecon Beacons have been put up around the Tiger Bay red-light district of Cardiff.

The venture is being organised by Fairbridge, a national charity that offers personal development training to disadvantaged people. The prostitutes are asked to pay £5 and take a packed lunch.

Judy Curry, Fairbridge

team manager, said: "This taster day is all about fun. It will give the girls a chance to sample something different and, hopefully, increase their self-esteem."

The outing has the support of South Glamorgan Health Authority, which runs an agency called Out-reach to look after the welfare of the Welsh capital's prostitutes.

Richard Pates, the clinical psychologist who manages the project, said last night: "It is the first time this has happened in Britain and will be a break in the routine for these ladies."

Linda Sell, 40, a prostitute, said: "The fresh air will

do us all good. They gave us the choice of things to do, so we had a meeting and went for canoeing and rock climbing. It looks exciting on the telly. It's about time us working girls had this sort of opportunity. We are always overlooked when it comes to day trips."

Clients who turn up looking for "business" during the awayday will find Cardiff's red light district missing its regular working girls. Ms Sell said: "They'll just have to wait until we get back. We may even find some new customers on our day trip. There's lots of farmers in the hills and they've got lots of money."



Artistic rebirth: Dr Hans Feibusch is ready to offer sketches and photographs of his murals at St Ethelburga's, below, to architects



Church murals may rise again

By JOHN YOUNG

HOPES of rebuilding St Ethelburga's church, largely ruined by the IRA bomb in the City of London ten days ago, have been raised by the disclosure that artist's sketches and photographs still exist of murals damaged or destroyed in the blast.

Dr Hans Feibusch, the artist, believes architects may be able to use the records of three murals, a large Crucifixion ivory and three panels he completed in the church in 1962.

Now in his 95th year, Dr Feibusch has had a prolific

career. His murals can be seen in dozens of churches across the country. He travels most days to his studio in St John's Wood, northwest London.

Born in Frankfurt in 1898, he served in the German army on the Russian front from 1916-18 before studying at the Berlin Academy and in Paris. A Jew, he and his wife left Germany after Hitler came to power.

Dr Feibusch is a convert to Christianity, and is particularly drawn to religious subjects. "I got myself a volume of the Old and New Testament together. I read right through it and saw how it interlocked and how one

developed from the other. That has been with me all my life."

The "cruelty" of the IRA bombing was "a terrible shock". He is equivocal when asked about the possible rebuilding of St Ethelburga's. "It is a thankless task to try to recreate an ancient building."

But if the site were declared a memorial, he would love to contribute a sculpture. He took up sculpting at the age of 70 after his sight failed.

□ The Ven George Cassidy, Archdeacon of the Diocese of London, will hold a meeting this week to assess the structural and financial viability of rebuilding St Ethelburga's.

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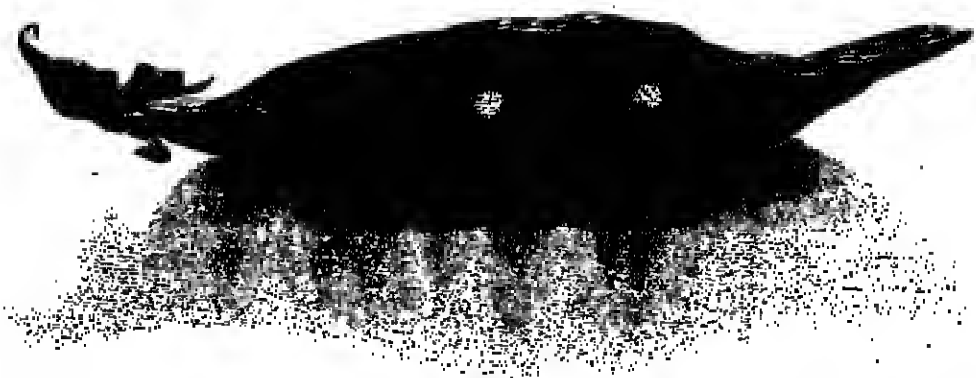
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Ayckbourn seeks £4m to transform cinema into world of theatre

By PAUL WILKINSON

THE playwright Alan Ayckbourn is to launch an appeal for more than £4 million to convert a vacant cinema into a modern theatre in the seaside town where his career began and has flourished.

Most of Ayckbourn's 45 works have been premiered in Scarborough, North Yorkshire, initially in a converted concert room above the town's library and later in a former school hall. Now he is seeking cash to turn the Grade II-listed 1930s cinema in the town centre into a theatre and entertainment complex.

Various plans for the conversion have been around since the cinema closed six years ago, but have been held back by the recession. Ayckbourn believes that the time is right to seek funding for the theatre, with the aim of opening in 1995.

The scheme is being run by the ADMirable Partnership, a company Ayckbourn has set

up with Viscount Downe, who lives near Scarborough, and Charles McCarthy, head of the McCain frozen food group, a big local employer. Scarborough council provided £50,000 for feasibility studies and has agreed a 99-year lease on the site on favourable terms.

Several national firms have offered financial assistance and all three partners have invested their own capital. The Sports and Arts Foundation has promised £500,000. Later this month, regional fundraising will be launched, followed in early June by a nationwide promotion at the National Theatre.

Mr McCarthy said: "The appeal of this theatre is not just local or even national, it is international. Alan Ayckbourn is our unique selling point, a factor I insist on when we market a new product. Without him this would not be happening, but because of

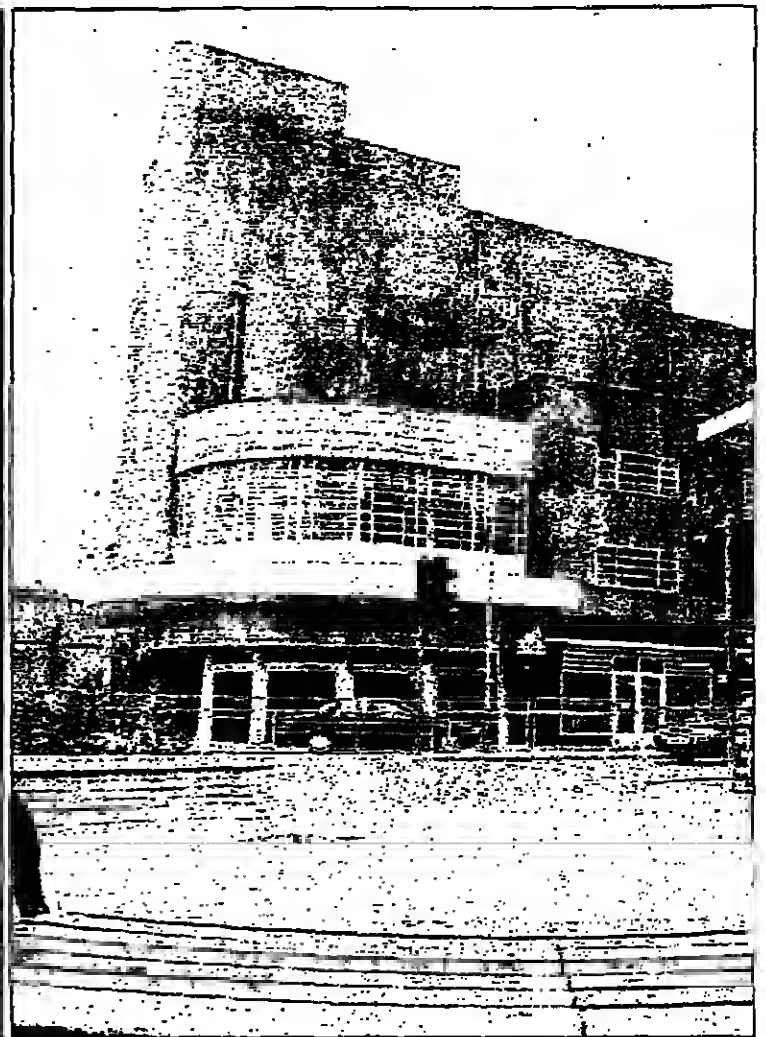
him we are world famous. When I sit in the present theatre, the person next to me is as likely to come from Dallas as the street next door to my home."

The plan is for a 400-seater theatre-in-the-round and a 200-seat end stage which could be adapted for lectures or films. There will be workshops and rehearsal rooms, bars and a restaurant.

Ayckbourn's connection with Scarborough goes back to 1955, when Stephen Joseph, a drama lecturer at Manchester University, brought to Scarborough the novel concept of placing the stage in the centre of the audience. Ayckbourn was an assistant stage manager whose writings were first aired on the Scarborough stage, a practice he still observes. At present they are staged at the Stephen Joseph Theatre, a red-brick former secondary school.



The player: Alan Ayckbourn aims to turn Scarborough's old Odeon cinema, above, into a theatre complex



Dalai Lama to explain Tibetan way

THE DALAI Lama, who began a two-week visit to Britain yesterday, is giving public talks on the ancient wisdom of his homeland.

Tibet's exiled spiritual leader will also meet Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey.

The high point of the visit will be a series of lectures at the Wembley Conference Centre in London from May 8 to 11. Tickets for three of the days are already sold out. The talks are said to offer "the heart of Tibet's ancient Buddhist wisdom — love, compassion and altruism — in everyday language to the widest possible audience."

It is the first time the Dalai Lama, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, has agreed to undertake such a programme.

On the last leg of his trip, he will be awarded honorary law degrees at the universities of Aberdeen and St Andrews. He will also visit Britain's only Tibetan monastery, Samye Ling near Dumfries in the Scottish lowlands.

Leading article, page 17
Photograph, page 20

Classic FM audience hits 4.5m

By KATE ALDERSON

CLASSIC FM has consolidated its position as Britain's most popular commercial radio station with a 5.5 per cent increase in audience since January.

Launched last September, the station's mixture of mainstream classics, lighthearted chat and news achieved immediate success and now has an audience of 4.5 million, nearly 2 million more than Radio 3. The station is the fourth most listened-to in the country, after Radios 1, 2 and 4.

John Spearman, chief executive of Classic FM, described quarterly figures released yesterday by Rajar (Radio Joint Audience Research), as "very encouraging indeed". He added: "Classic FM will continue its policy of broadcasting classical music which is both entertaining and accessible to a wider audience."

Radio 3 has increased its weekly listenership by just over 7 per cent from 2.5 million in January to 2.7 million. The rise apparently supports Classic FM's claim that its launch would increase the classical listening audience. Radio 2, initially hit by Classic FM, saw listeners rise from 9.8 million to 10.1 million since January.

BBC Radio's total audience share rose from 58.4 per cent in January to 59 per cent. A BBC spokeswoman said: "Radio 4 and Radio 5 together with BBC local and regional radio are largely responsible for this growth in the BBC's share of the total radio audience."

TV and Radio, page 39

Army tests designer clothing

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

SOLDIERS marching off to war in the future will be able to select from an array of "designer" combat clothing created to suit different temperatures, conditions and individual preferences.

The latest all-purpose combat uniform, based on the concept of layers of clothing which can be taken off or added to, has already met with approval in early tests.

Now the 2nd battalion The Royal Green Jackets has been chosen to put the new clothing through its paces in field trials from October. The Royal Marines and the RAF Regiment will also try out the uniforms.

British soldiers on operational duty with the UN in Bosnia-Herzegovina will not be involved in the trials as the material has not yet been tested after printing with special dyes that match the natural background.

Brigadier Tony Staggs, the project officer, said the trials would be completed by July 1994 and the clothing would be introduced into service from the end of 1995. The £40 million cost will be paid for over ten years.

Under the new design concept, every item of clothing will be lightweight, from the camouflaged shirt and trousers to the quick-dry cotton field jacket. Another crucial item for soldiers will be a new combat assault boot, due to come into service by the end of this year and intended to meet soldiers' perennial complaints that their footwear is uncomfortable and leaky.

Battlefields echo to new war cries

By JOHN YOUNG

LAST-DITCH attempts are being made to save from development two of Britain's historic battlefields: Tewkesbury in Gloucestershire and Neville's Cross near Durham.

The first register of English battlefields, intended as a guide to government departments and planning authorities, is to be published later this year, but

in 1990 that the features visible today were an important resource for scholars, schoolchildren and tourists. Tewkesbury was an important town that had not spread across its ancient hinterland.

John Steane, of the Council for British Archaeology, said that, if the plans were accepted, what remained of the battlefield would be devastated.

The enquiry inspector broadly supported the objections. He concluded that the question of short-term land availability did not justify the harm that would be caused to the site and that planning permission should be refused. However, in March Michael Howard, the environment secretary, said he would consider granting outline planning permission.

Last month, an enquiry opened into a proposed western bypass for the city of Durham. A local action group claims that the road would run through the site of the battle of Neville's Cross, where the army of the Scottish King David II, son of Robert the Bruce, was routed in 1346.

The newly formed Battlefields Trust says none of the 50 or so battlefields expected to be included in the register enjoys statutory protection.



there are fears that it may be too late to save the two under threat. The Battle of Tewkesbury took place on May 4, 1471, during the Wars of the Roses.

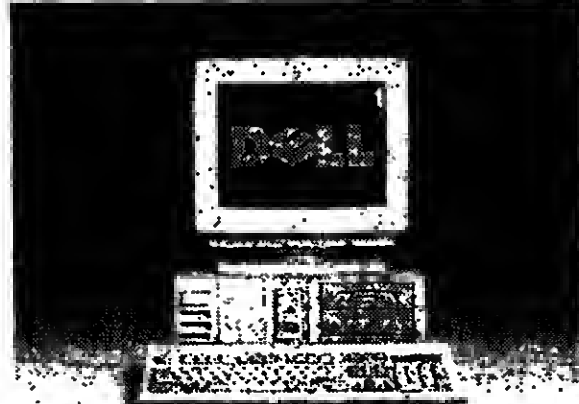
Part of the site has long since been built over, and there are plans for housing and an access road across the Gastsos, an area of hedged fields, lanes and parkland.

David Miles, director of the Oxford Archaeological Unit, told a public enquiry

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Britain tells Norway to choose between EC and whaling

By MICHAEL HORNSBY
AGRICULTURE
CORRESPONDENT

NORWAY'S hopes of joining the European Community would be dashed if it were to resume commercial whaling without international approval, John Gummer, the agriculture minister, said yesterday.

In the strongest warning so far to the Norwegians, who opened EC entry negotiations last month, Mr Gummer said that Norway would "lose all credence in international affairs" if it started hunting whales again.

"When they seek to join the EC they have to obey the EC's rules, and one of those is a ban on trading of whale products," he said. "The EC's rules are absolutely clear."

The warning sets the stage for a bitter clash between Britain and Norway at the annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission to be held in Kyoto, Japan, from May 10 to 14. The Norwegians want the commission to relax the moratorium on commercial whaling, in force for the past six years, to allow them to catch up to 800 minke whales a year in the northeast Atlantic.

Norway has threatened to resume whaling unilaterally if it does not get its way. Gro Harlem Brundtland, the Norwegian prime minister, said last month that she saw no reason why whaling should be a taboo for her country from EC membership. "I cannot think of another case where many countries have chosen to ignore science and tried to prevent another state from using a resource which is abundant."

Mr Gummer accused Mrs Brundtland, whose Labour party runs a minority government, of using the whaling issue to drum up support ahead of elections in September.

"They see whaling as a religious thing. You get some of that tone that you get in *Moby Dick*, the search for the great white whale and so on. It is a very special Norse kind of opinion and I think that is

Hunting of whales for commercial gain could resume for the first time in six years as Norway and Japan contest a continued ban

what she is pandering to." The argument between London and Oslo reflects a fierce debate over the future of the commission, which was set up in 1946 to regulate the catching of whales. Norway and Japan, the two main whaling nations, feel that Britain, the United States and other countries that stopped whaling years ago are subverting the commission's original purpose to curtail whaling with environmental and animal welfare lobbies opposed to all whaling.

Norway and Japan argue that stocks of one species, the minke, once thought too small to be worth hunting, are now abundant enough to sustain limited catches. This is supported by the commission's scientific committee.

Ray Gambrell, the secretary of the commission, who is already in Kyoto, said: "We estimate there are 760,000 minke whales in the southern hemisphere, 118,000 in the north Atlantic and 25,000 in the north Pacific. In all reasonableness we would have to say that a commercial catch could be taken without endangering these stocks."

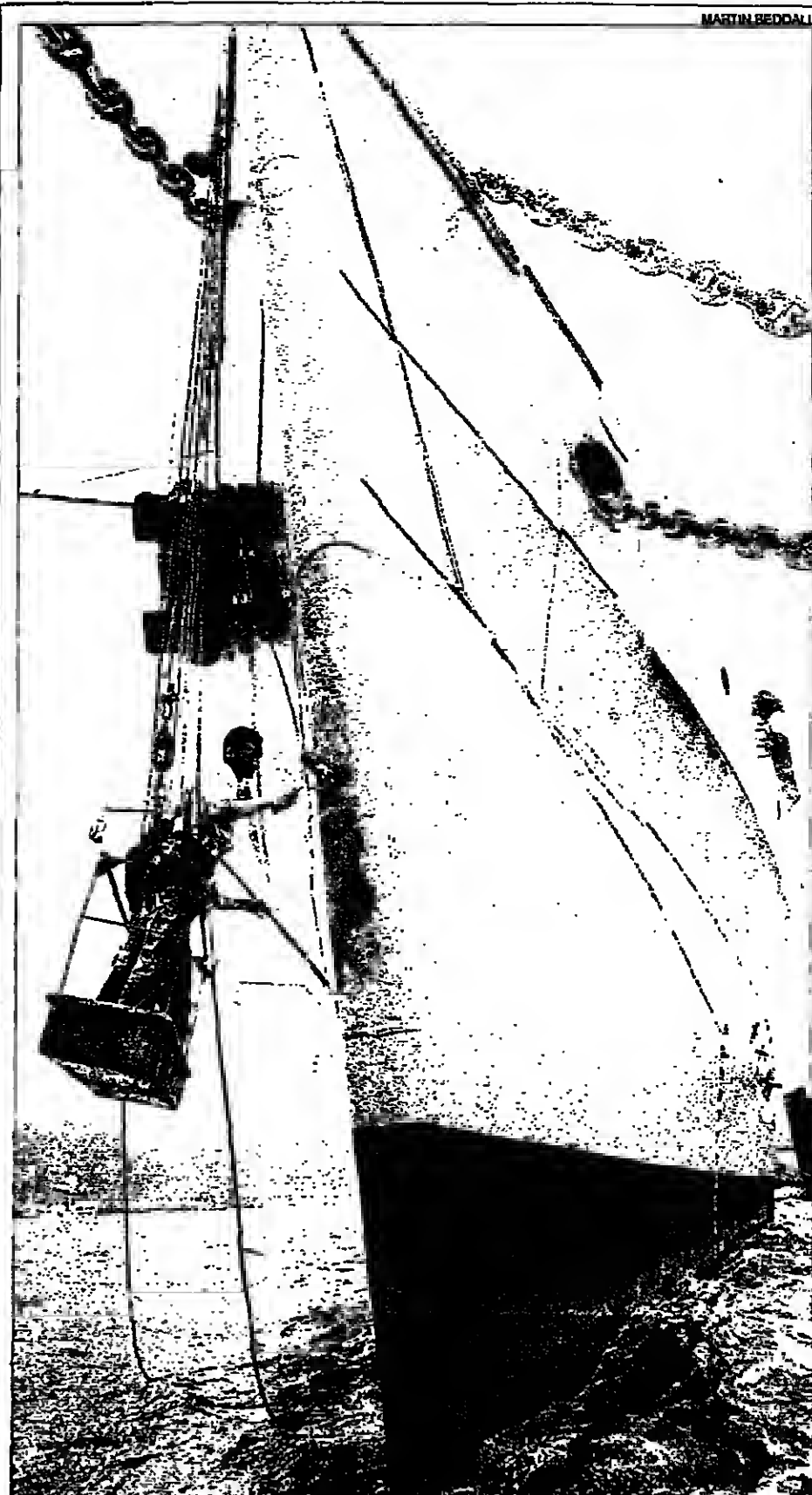
Britain and others say stock size is not the only issue. Two other conditions must be met before they would contemplate easing the moratorium: proof that catch quotas can be effectively enforced and that whales can be killed without undue cruelty. Mr Gummer is far from satisfied on either.

Even the Norwegians admit their killing methods are less than perfect. Last year, hunters killed 95 whales for research purposes, such as obtaining data on the age and sex composition of stocks, using grenade-tipped harpoons that are meant to explode on impact. Such scientific kills are permitted under moratorium rules.

According to the Norwegian fisheries department, only half the whales died instantly. Forty-two per cent died within ten minutes of being hit, but 8 per cent survived for longer and one animal was still alive after half an hour. Nine harpoons failed to detonate after striking their targets.

In Kyoto, Britain will urge that the commission should promote tourist "whale watching" as an alternative to hunting. Companies in 37 countries already organise whale watching, generating global revenue of more than £200 million last year. France is sponsoring a plan to turn the whole southern ocean, from the polar ice to 40 degrees south, into a permanent whale sanctuary.

Shipshape: painters tackle the bow of HMS Belfast, moored opposite the Tower of London, changing her from battleship grey to a pattern of greys and blues as the cruiser adopts wartime Arctic camouflage to mark the fiftieth anniversary of her role in the sinking of the *Scharnhorst*. Painters are almost halfway through the task, which will also make the 11,550-ton ship more eye-catching to tourists. Launched in 1938 by



Shipshape: painters tackle the bow of HMS Belfast, moored opposite the Tower of London, changing her from battleship grey to a pattern of greys and blues as the cruiser adopts wartime Arctic camouflage to mark the fiftieth anniversary of her role in the sinking of the *Scharnhorst*. Painters are almost halfway through the task, which will also make the 11,550-ton ship more eye-catching to tourists. Launched in 1938 by

Mrs Neville Chamberlain, Belfast was once capable of 32 knots. It fired the opening salvo in the battle with the German battleship *Scharnhorst* off the Norwegian coast. The *Scharnhorst*, escorted by five destroyers, attacked a convoy off Bear Island in December 1943 as it headed for Russia. The German ship was repulsed and was eventually overcome by the battleship *Duke of York* and a torpedo attack.

Charities take bakery to Bosnia

By NICHOLAS WATT

TWO British charities are planning to send a portable bakery to Bosnia for starving refugees. War Child and the Serious Road Trip, which have been supported by *The Times*, will use it to produce up to 100,000 loaves a week.

The bakery will travel on seven mobile trailers connected to three ovens. Two professional bakers will man the ovens, supported by 14 volunteers. Christopher Watt, of the Serious Road Trip, said: "We are putting the emphasis on refugee movements to avoid mortar fire." How long they stayed in one place would depend on local advice.

The charities estimate that a six-month operation will cost them up to £500,000. They bought the bakery, which was originally worth that figure, from the defence ministry for £5,000. They will need £250,000 for spare parts and £200,000 for ingredients.

The mobile bakery will also provide drinking water for stranded communities. Mr Watt said: "We plan to take out a water purification unit which will take a day to provide a week's supply of water for the bakery. For the other six days, the water can go to the people."

The United Nations High Commission for Refugees has endorsed the project and the charities are expecting the support of the Overseas Development Administration. Donations can be sent to: War Child, 12 Greenland Street, London NW1 0ND. Tel: 071 916 9276.

"I haven't paid a bill in three years, since I joined Firstdirect."



NHS chief defends use of league tables

By JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH SERVICES
CORRESPONDENT

THE failure of hospitals and health authorities to examine league tables showing their performance on surgical death rates, cancelled operating sessions and other measures was criticised yesterday by Sir Duncan Nichol, chief executive of the NHS.

The league tables, sent each year to health authorities on computer disks by the health department, showed that surgical death rates were six times higher in some hospitals and that obtaining high quality health care remains a lonely. Many managers ignore them.

Hospitals and health authorities had a duty to study the information and act on it where necessary, Sir Duncan said. His comments come after publication in *The Times* last week of hospital league tables based on the latest available figures. *The Times* received calls from hospitals and health authorities asking where the information had originated. Many were unaware that it was routinely sent to health authorities.

Sir Duncan rejected complaints about the accuracy and comparability of the information and said the government remained committed to publishing tables next year. "We have every intention of using comparative information. Publishing it will concentrate managers' minds."

Many managers and health experts were critical of the tables published in *The Times*, saying they did not compare like with like. Sir Duncan said: "I recognise the hesitance about whether the tables can be produced in a meaningful way but the information is going to get better. We have a powerful diagnostic tool in the offing."

He said good progress was being made in refining the first six indicators selected for publication, covering cancelled operating sessions, amount of day surgery, and waiting times for in-patients, out-patients, in accident and emergency departments and for ambulances. Pilot studies of collecting and using the indicators are to be run in a few hospitals in July.

Letters, page 17

NEWS IN BRIEF

Dog saved by drinking rainwater

A dog that plunged down steep cliffs has been rescued after surviving for eight days on only rainwater and dew.

A search by lifeboat and helicopter failed to find the golden retriever, called Ben, after it was lost at The Valley of Rocks, Devon. But it was saved by a boatman, Peter Wakeham, and his son after being seen by children.

Mr Wakeham said: "He must have survived from rainwater and dew he licked off his coat." Ben is recovering at the home of his owner, Dorothy Orr, of nearby Lynton.

Murder charge

David Bond, 27, was remanded in custody by magistrates at Derby accused of the murder of Deborah Buxton, 35, on a river-bank last week. Mr Bond, unemployed, of Stratford, Burton upon Trent, will appear again on Thursday.

Partner accused

The business partner of the missing millionaire David Martin was accused of his murder at High Wycombe Magistrates' Court. Colin James, 49, of Mill Hill, north London, was remanded in custody for a week.

Canal body

Police are treating as suspicious the death of a woman aged 15 to 35 whose badly decomposed body was found in the Manchester Ship Canal near Warrington. Bruises were found on the body.

Sailor missing

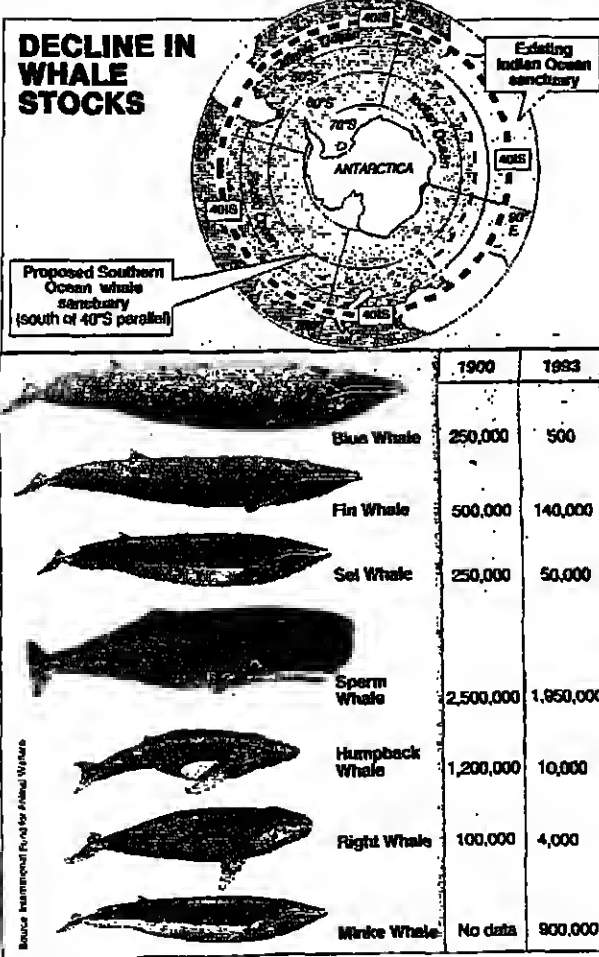
Fears are growing for the safety of Tom McNally, 49, from Liverpool, who is attempting to cross the Atlantic in a boat 5ft 4in long and was due in Puerto Rico three weeks ago.

Off the rails

More than 100 rail travellers were delayed while bomb disposal experts recovered a second world war grenade from the track of Severn Valley Railway near Kidderminster.

Cyclist named

A cyclist who died while on a 70-mile day-jour of the Isle of Wight has been named as Kenneth Till, 62, from Crawley, West Sussex.



Councillors will take half seats on police authorities

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE new police authorities proposed by the home secretary are expected to be made up of three magistrates, five Home Office nominees and eight representatives of local authorities.

Under plans being drawn up for Kenneth Clarke's white paper on police reform, the chairman of each authority will be chosen from among the 16 members rather than just from the Home Office nominees. These could include local businessmen and public figures with experience in areas such as social services.

The Northern Ireland police authority, which has a wide range of experience, is a model for the mainland authorities.

Carolyn Sinclair, the civil servant in charge of the white paper, said there would be opportunities for consultation when it was published next month. For example, there

would be options on the difficult area of how to select the eight councillors. There has been concern about how such a small number could represent several authorities of different political control.

Miss Sinclair, a veteran of the Policy Unit at Number Ten, said the white paper would herald the greatest police legislation for 30 years. But it would not include final decisions on police discipline or the conclusions of the Sheehy enquiry into pay and conditions. Those would be part of a police bill next autumn.

The white paper will include a new national policy on police computers and technology, which is aimed at stopping forces from going their own way and buying expensive systems that prove incompatible. Miss Sinclair said the paper would "be looking to develop a broad national poli-

cy for information technology. The independence of chief constables has meant there has been a development of technology individually."

On secondment from the Treasury, where she wrote the green paper on tax reforms for husbands and wives in the eighties, Miss Sinclair has a team of ten to prepare the white paper and then move on to the legislation.

She was educated at Edinburgh University, where she took a degree in modern history, and first joined the Foreign Office before moving to the Treasury in the eighties. She is credited by Whitehall observers with playing a pivotal role as a member of the Policy Unit in persuading Margaret Thatcher to take up environmental issues.

She was a member of the unit for three years and also briefed John Major before joining the Home Office.

Old Course golfers hit by new handicap

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

ORGANISED gangs are stealing from rich golfers at the world's most famous venue. The number of thefts of designer golf clubs at St Andrews Old Course has tripled in the past two years with more than 60 sets of clubs taken from cars in the area last year.

Police, crime prevention experts and golfers working together have come up with a package of measures designed to beat the thieves. Surveillance cameras are to be introduced, leaflets and stickers

distributed and hoteliers asked to warn guests of the danger.

In 1991, there were 19 incidents of the theft of golf clubs from cars but by last year that had risen to 61 thefts. The equipment stolen was worth almost £73,000 and almost all the victims were tourists. Most of the thefts occurred within a mile of St Andrews town centre, with the thieves hitting car parks at nearby golf clubs, hotels and restaurants.

PC Thor Toghier, the area's crime prevention officer, said that from various vantage points around the Old Course in St Andrews, it was easy for thieves to

identify the "designer" clubs, follow their owners to their vehicles and trail them to an hotel or restaurant before stealing the clubs. "If we do not resolve the problem, then it will have an awful effect on tourism," she said.

The crime wave comes at a particularly bad time for the Old Course, which faces competition from a £3 million course planned for the outskirts of St Andrews. Behind the scheme is the management company of St Andrews Old Course Hotel. The new course is to be designed by Peter Thomson, an Australian and five times winner of the Open championship.

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Senior university staff investigate a long-term anomaly highlighted by student research

Women a poor second in Cambridge degree awards

By JOHN O'LEARY
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

SENIOR academics at Cambridge University have promised to investigate the consistent male domination of first class degrees. The move comes after they received new evidence from a student survey.

Twice as many men as women are being awarded firsts in some of the university's most popular subjects, according to the student newspaper *Varsity*. The anomaly is shown to have existed for at least a decade.

In the most striking example, none of the 75 female students taking last year's Part I History examination took a first, compared with 21 of the 129 men. Although there was less of a discrepancy in last year's Part II classifications, men were three times more successful than women in the first class lists in 1991.

Other subjects have a similar record. In English, for example, only 4 per cent of women were awarded firsts at

Male domination of top degrees could be biological or just a matter of confidence. For now, the reason remains a mystery

Part I last year, compared with 11 per cent of men. Almost a quarter of male students were awarded firsts at Part II, but less than one woman in ten.

Engineering, the biggest faculty, has produced similar results. Less than 8 per cent of women took a Part I first in 1992, compared with more than 22 per cent of men. Male students were almost twice as successful as women in Part II last year, and in 1991 only one female student out of 25 took a first, compared with 30 out of 121 men.

Dr Charles Goodhart, a former senior tutor at Gonville & Caius College, alerted the university to the position five years ago. He wrote in the *Cambridge Reporter*: "In university examinations, women at Cambridge, and also at Oxford, are at present

not getting much more than half as many first class results in proportion with their numbers as do men." Medicine was the only exception among principal subjects.

Research at Oxford University two years ago confirmed Dr Goodhart's findings. Gerry McCrum, a fellow of Hertford College, suggested that the confrontational tutorial system might be to blame for women taking half the number of firsts awarded to men.

Some Cambridge faculties, including English and history, have introduced "blind marking", in which examiners are not told the identity of candidates, to remove the possibility of bias. The university has ceased to publish a breakdown of examination results by sex. Universities other than Oxford and Cambridge also re-

port a higher proportion of men awarded firsts. Prior to university, up to the age of 16, girls achieve significantly better results in national tests, but boys begin to overhaul them at the A-level stage.

A wide variety of explanations has been put forward for male supremacy at degree level. They range from Dr Goodhart's biological theory, that males in every species dominate the extremes of performance, to the more common explanation that female students lack confidence and have fewer role models.

At Cambridge, only 15 per cent of fellows and 5 per cent of professors are women. Since the university often recruits academics from among its first class graduates, the divide may be self-perpetuating. Sir David Williams, the vice-chancellor said: "Varsity has raised a fair point. It is a very important problem, but it is difficult to know how to tackle it. We certainly will look at this very carefully."



Still waters: Cambridge academics are trying to fathom why women are awarded fewer first class degrees

Last word from a classic orator

By JOHN SHAW

Cambridge University is about to have a vacancy for one of its most unusual jobs, requiring a sharp wit, a brilliant grasp of Latin and a voice with the carrying power of a West End actor.

Dr James Diggle is stepping down as university orator after holding the £2,926-a-year job for 11 years. His task has been to research, write and give the Latin speeches at honorary degree ceremonies each June.

He will have written and delivered 100 addresses in praise of the great and good from all over the world. In recent years, English translations have allowed all in the audience to enjoy the speeches spiced with donnish wit that take months to prepare.

An outstanding example occurred when Sir Michael Atiyah, a mathematician now Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, received an honorary degree in 1984. The task was to give a flavour of the rarified branches of mathematics mastered by Sir Michael in a classical language, yet make it understandable to a general audience.

Treading a delicate line between learning and levity, Dr Diggle gave the address in Gilbert and Sullivan verse. His model was *The Pirates of Penzance*. Part of the address was:

"If you can map the motion of a cello string vibrating, Or the mesmerising wobble of a jelly undulating, If you can do equations whether simple or quadratic, While standing on your head, because your brain's so acrobatic..."

It was a brilliant success. Despite the formality of the

occasion, grins spread round the room. Dr Diggle said yesterday: "Part of the exercise is to inform and amuse an audience that is not expert in the various disciplines of those receiving degrees. If you are writing for a general audience, you have to interest them and that is why I introduce humour."

Dr Diggle, 49, came up to St John's College as an undergraduate in 1962. He then joined Queens', where he became a fellow, in 1966. He is reader in Greek and Latin and his main interest is Greek tragedy. "There is something in Latin you don't find in any other language," he said. "It is constructed in a very different way from most other languages and putting the words together in a form that is aesthetically satisfactory is a great challenge."

The speeches are delivered in the Senate House, which has no microphones, so the orator needs a strong voice.

Delivering them in full academic robes in the presence of the Duke of Edinburgh, the Chancellor, is a performance in its own right, an ability recognised by a great professional orator. The actor Sir Alec Guinness received an honorary degree and afterwards congratulated Dr Diggle. "It was wonderful and made me feel it was all worthwhile," the academic said.

His final speech next month, his hundredth, will have an equally discerning subject. It will be in praise of Dame Iris Murdoch, the novelist and philosopher, whose hobby is learning languages.

CHAMPIONSHIP CHESS

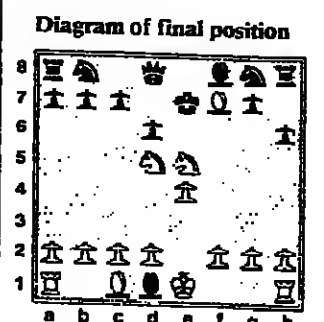
By RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

The elephant, apart from being the world's largest land-dwelling mammal, is also a chess piece. In the course of its long history it has undergone a fascinating change from pachyderm to prelate. The modern bishop on the chessboard in fact started out life as an elephant in the ancient Indian chess sets. When the troops of Alexander the Great encountered Indian war elephants for the first time on their campaigns they observed their key role, both in Oriental warfare and in agriculture.

The Greeks called the elephant "Alaph-Hind", the Indian ox. The elephant of course, appeared as a unit on the primitive Indian chessboard, the symbol of warfare in miniature.

Only in Russia now does the term elephant (sloin) persist. Elsewhere, as chess marched westwards from its Indian origins it was the "L", "F" sounds of the word alaph-hind which survived. One sees traces of this in the various words for bishop: Middle English - Aulin; Spanish - alfil; Italian - alfiere; German - lauffer and perhaps even in French - le fou.

The bishop can also be instrumental in delivering an early checkmate as in the following spectacular example which became known in the 18th century.



White	Black
1 e4	a5
2 Nf3	d6
3 Bc4	Bg4
4 Nc3	h6
5 Ne5	Bxf7+
6 Bx7	Kx7
7 Nf5	checkmate

Winning Move, Page 40



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First mass strike in east since Hitler's ban

Steel workers walk out over cost of Bonn's unification

FROM ADAM LEBOR
IN BERLIN

FOR the first time since Hitler banned free trade unions in May 1933, thousands of workers in eastern Germany legally downed tools across the region yesterday.

The mass strike of steel and engineering workers erupted after employers refused to honour an agreement to boost wages by up to 26 per cent, in line with western German levels, offering 9 per cent instead. The stoppages spread rapidly. In Brandenburg, 6,000 workers went on strike first. Another 10,000 in Saxony then refused to start their morning shift.

The strike has deeper causes. There is widespread resentment across eastern Germany about the rapid pace of unification and rising inflation and unemployment. Leaders of the IG Metall union pledged that their members would stay out as long as they had to. "We did not want to strike. We were forced into by the employers," Franz Steinkuehler, union head, visiting a plant in Dresden, said. "But we will strike as long as necessary and we will win."

Negotiations are due to start today to settle the dispute. German television reported. But if no solution is found within three weeks union leaders threatened that all 330,000 metal workers in the eastern states will walk out.

East German workers still earn an average wage of 2,000 marks (£835) a month — 70 per cent of west German wages — even though they must pay the same prices for goods and foodstuffs. "The strikes show the kind of pressure lots of east Germans are under, getting caught between bad and worse," Rainer Oschmann, editor of *Neues Deutschland*, former organ of the Socialist Unity Party and now independent, said.

"They are caught in a quagmire. They don't want to strike. They must keep their job but to do so they are obliged to work in less and less favourable conditions," he said. "Even with a wage increase of 26 per cent, they earn less than two-thirds of a western salary. They concluded an agreement and now they wonder what it is worth."

Employers say that the deepening recession across Germany means they can no longer afford to succumb to their agreements. Economic analysts issued a warning that the strike could cost up to 100,000 jobs and that much of east German industry already faces collapse because of the higher unit labour costs there. "Is it reasonable to fight for 26 per cent when the east German economy is close to collapse and many privatised firms are struggling for survival?" Heiner Flassbeck, of the Berlin-based German Institute for Economic Research, demanded.

Herr Steinkuehler said in his May Day speech: "Sixty years ago to the day the fascists broke up the unions. I do not want to draw parallels, but it must be clear to everyone that evil deeds, even in 1993, develop their own dynamism. We must cut this at its roots."



Rider in the storm: a lone strikebreaker cycles through a Brandenburg steelworks

Bonus for Kohl as opposition leader resigns over scandal

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

GERMANY'S opposition Social Democrats were plunged into confusion yesterday when their leader and chancellor-in-waiting, Björn Engholm, 49, resigned from all three of his top jobs.

Bowing to pressure from party colleagues and battered by revelations about his role in a murky 1987 political scandal, he said he would abandon his posts as chairman of the SPD, prime minister of Schleswig-Holstein, and official candidate for the position of chancellor.

As SPD politicians scrambled to pick up his discarded hats, it became plain that Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, had been handed his best present for a year. Herr Kohl's coalition with the Free Democrats has been under strain, his personal popularity has been flagging and the economy is in recession. Until yesterday his prospects at

next year's general election did not seem particularly bright. Now the opposition has been seriously unhinged.

Herr Engholm, a phlegmatic pipe-smoking north German, said that he had covered up the truth about the 1987 scandal because he wanted to shelter his family from public intrusion. He had lied to a parliamentary investigation commission. The SPD grandee, Johannes Rau, talked of a sad "personal decision" but there is little doubt Herr Engholm was pushed.

The SPD had moved under his leadership from open opposition to a spectator's role on a number of issues. He appeared to be opening the way for the SPD to be a junior partner to the Christian Democrats in a so-called grand coalition. A cabal of SPD politicians considered ways of shedding him before the autumn party conference.

The scandal ensured the move happened in good time.

The origin of the scandal that scuppered Herr Engholm dates back to the elections in Schleswig-Holstein in September 1987. An aide of the then Christian Democrat premier, Uwe Barschel, launched a number of "dirty tricks" against Herr Engholm. When the tricks were discovered, Herr Engholm won by a landslide. Barschel was later found dead in mysterious circumstances.

Herr Engholm always claimed he found out about the dirty tricks only on the eve of the election; it now emerges he knew at least six days ahead and his election team used the information to mobilise public sympathy. Since this did not marry well with Herr Engholm's image as a moral beacon, he repeatedly denied that he had advance knowledge of the affair.

German show trial will rip mask from face of a real-life Karla

BY ROGER BOYES

WITH a trial opening today, the hunt for the real-life version of Karla, John le Carré's cunning spy-master, draws to a close. The hearing promises to lift the veil from three decades of East-West espionage.

In truth, General Markus Wolf, 70, does not, at the end of his spying career, much resemble the slightly different figure of Karla who, in le Carré's phrase, entered the West as a "little man, hatless with a satchel". General Wolf, accused of directing dozens of destructive espionage cases against the West, is altogether more worldly.

Like Karla, General Wolf is of thoughtful disposition and a thwarted idealist. Unlike Karla, he is craggy handsome, married for a third time to a woman much younger than himself, and cuts a debonair figure, a rare quality in East Germany.

His trial is supposed to establish patterns of command and establish his responsibility for a chain of spy scandals. The blueprint for the American strategic defence initiative (Star Wars) programme, US and European signals intelligence, al-

most every planned Nato troop movement: all were gathered by General Wolf's spies and sent to the Soviet Union. General Wolf was in charge of gathering foreign intelligence for East Germany. He controlled between 500 and 600 agents, many were hidden deep in West German society.

His trial is therefore more than just a rehash of such old spy stories as the Romeo agent who was trained to seduce the spinster secretary of Bonn, the careful placement of Günther Guitlaume at the side of Willy Brandt, then the German chancellor, the blackmailing of countless drunken or indebted civil servants. It will stake some of the former West Germany's thirst for justice, for righting wrongs.

Erich Honecker, the former East German leader, avoided trial. General Wolf is the nearest the Germans will come to a proper show trial. The hearing promises to be a shocking experience. Some of the prosecutor's material, for example, indicates that General Wolf's men traded information with West Germany's top investigative re-



Wolf: will not betray undiscovered agents

porter. The East Germans, it emerges from the documents to be presented at the Düsseldorf trial, had penetrated every important West German institution and General Wolf was at the web's centre. The police general, who says he survives on a state pension of about £200 a month but still manages to run two large villas, told *Der Spiegel* yesterday that he

would remain silent for most of the trial and that he would not try to buy his freedom by revealing the names of undiscovered agents. Instead, he said, he would make a short statement outlining his motives.

The fact is that General Wolf has little choice. Of the 83 witnesses interviewed by the prosecutor, almost every one has a grudge against the former spy-master. Erich Mielke, his immediate boss, the former interior minister who is now in a Berlin jail, never liked him. The general's subordinates believe he claimed credit for many espionage successes that were none of his doing.

His best bet is therefore to point to the inherent flaws of the trial. He was not a West German citizen at the time of the alleged offences, so how can he have committed treason?

One thing is certain: General Wolf is no longer the "man with no face". That was the West German nickname for him because only two or three photographs of him were taken during his 33 years as a spy-master. From today, Markus Wolf will be a mole exposed to the sunlight.

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Support at hand: President Yeltsin receiving flowers and praise from well-wishers when he took a stroll yesterday in Zelenograd, 20 miles northwest of Moscow. The warm reception was a welcome relief for the president after the May Day clashes in the capital and the rally of communists and national-

ists on Sunday (Anatoli Lieven writes). Last night Sergei Filatov, head of the presidential staff, threatened to prosecute opposition deputies involved in organising the violent demonstration in Moscow and demanded that parliament lift their immunity. If not, Mr Filatov said, the president was ready to

act decisively. The leadership of the opposition Communist party has accused the government of "frantically looking for an excuse to take emergency steps against the opposition". Fresh violence is expected on Sunday, the anniversary of Soviet victory in the second world war.

Maastricht backers battle for hearts and minds of Danish left

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN COPENHAGEN

OPINION polls in Denmark continued to suggest yesterday that when Danes vote in a second referendum on the Maastricht treaty, on May 18, they will say "yes". Gallup found 51 per cent in favour and 30 per cent against.

The number of undecided had fallen by a quarter. Those now making up their minds are moving by a small margin to the "yes" camp. By contrast, polls taken a fortnight before last year's vote, which narrowly rejected the treaty, found the two camps almost level.

The campaign for ratification of the treaty is backed by the government, all but one of the parties in parliament and all but one of Denmark's 47 daily newspapers. Yet everyone remembers that, even with these advantages, voters last time refused to be intimidated and swung narrowly against Maastricht. The "yes" campaign needs something else to hold on to its lead: silence and self-restraint from the bigwigs of Brussels.

Danes hate being hectorred, harangued or patronised. Last time they fiercely resented advice and threats from Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, President Mitterrand of France and Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor.

The Danish opposition to Maastricht in no way resembles the Tory flavour of British Euro-scepticism. Denmark's leading rock group raps against Brussels, poets versify against European union and the spokesmen for the "no" campaign wear leather motorcycle jackets and beards. Last year two-thirds of voters for the

dominant Social Democratic party ignored their leader's advice and swung the result to a "no". The battle for hearts and minds is on the political left.

The Social Democrats' leader, Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, became prime minister earlier this year and is pushing a kinder and gentler message than the scaremongering of last spring. He is the natural conciliator required by Denmark's intricate coalition politics: he won his party's leadership because he is one of Scandinavia's most boring politicians. His predecessor was sacked for being too interesting. Political opponents who negotiate with Mr Rasmussen compare the experience to an injection of a powerful tranquilliser.

Mr Rasmussen's style may be dull, but his tactics are acute. He solidified the com-

mon front in favour of the treaty by allowing the far-left Socialist People's Party to set the agenda for the EC's summit in Edinburgh last December. EC leaders agreed "footnotes" to the Maastricht treaty exempting Denmark from a single currency or any future Euro-army.

Advised by Philip Gould, the British Labour party's marketing guru, Mr Rasmussen has dropped the threatening tone of earlier propaganda and is accentuating the positive. The latest "yes" leaflet is adorned by a sunny coastal landscape and addressed to "those who think 'maybe'..."

But Mr Rasmussen and his colleagues live in daily fear of the unexpected. M. Delors remains deeply suspect.

Brussels: Judge Claus Guldman, Denmark's representative at the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg, yesterday claimed his country's Maastricht opt-outs were watertight, but there were clear signs of panic here that Danes might be convinced otherwise (Tom Walker writes).

Yesterday Donald Allen, the senior Commission lawyer, whose leaked note backed up Maastricht sceptics claiming the opt-outs were worthless, was reportedly on holiday.

Bruno Dehomas, M. Delors's spokesman, said the opt-outs were binding in international law and emphasised that Mr Allen was an official "not directly connected" with the matter who did not speak on behalf of the Commission.

Diary, page 16



Rasmussen: success as a boring politician

Body of cult leader found with bullet hole in skull at Waco

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE body of the cult leader David Koresh has been found in the charred remains of the Branch Davidian compound in Texas with a gunshot wound in the forehead, ending speculation that he may have escaped from the cult's headquarters.

Medical examiners, who are conducting post-mortem examinations on the 72 bodies recovered, said the wound was about one inch above the nose area, but refused to say definitively that it was self-inflicted.

"The preliminary finding would be a gunshot wound to the head," said David Pareya, a local justice of the peace. "The condition of the body was about the condition of the rest of the bodies that were there: extensive burning."

"The skull itself was absolutely broken up into multiple fragments and the anthropology team has been working for the last couple of days in order to try to reconstruct that," he said.

Mr Pareya said the body was found on its own in a room next to the kitchen area of the stronghold that was

used as the compound's communications centre. It was identified with the aid of X-rays and dental records.

The X-rays confirmed that Koresh had also received a gunshot wound to his side during the shoot-out at the compound on February 28 that started the stand-off. Although Koresh did complain about the wound during the siege, officials never considered it to be life-threatening.

Koresh's followers and his lawyer questioned whether the cult leader would have taken his own life. "God the Father told him you can't do that. He says under no circumstances are you to kill yourself," said Mary Jones, Koresh's mother-in-law, who also lost her son, two daughters and several grandchildren in the fire.

Dick DeGuerin, Koresh's lawyer, who spoke to the cult leader in the besieged compound before the fire, said: "He told me suicide was contrary to his beliefs."

Byron Sage, the FBI's main negotiator during the siege, said it was "a relief in every-

one" that Koresh's body had been identified. "There was no doubt that he was there. It just helps put an end to the story," he said. But Mrs Jones said she believed her son-in-law had gone to heaven. "The dead carcass is left behind, but the spirit is up there," she said.

Arson investigators say the cult members started the fire in several different locations. Some of the nine survivors of the fire say FBI tanks knocked over oil lamps.

Koresh was said to have full control over his followers and to be the only male cult member allowed to have sex with women, or to drink and smoke. He had various "wives" and is thought to have fathered the 17 children who died in the blaze.

The former musician had attracted followers from around the world, many from Britain and Australia. Authorities believe between 25 and 27 of those who died were from Britain. Congressional hearings were held last week on the handling of the siege and federal investigations are continuing.

Hounded Andreotti agrees to waive immunity

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

GIULIO Andreotti, the life senator, Christian Democrat elder statesman and former prime minister, said yesterday that he was willing to renounce his parliamentary immunity from prosecution and face charges that he had colluded with the Mafia.

Signor Andreotti changed tack on the allegations against him as leaders of the Democratic Party of the Left (PDS), the former Communists, met to discuss policy towards the government of Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, the prime minister and governor of the central bank. There have been many signs that three former Communist ministers who left the government last week may return.

In another development, Giorgio Benvenuto, the Socialist Party leader, urged its leadership to use a meeting called for today to change the party's name, abandon its symbol of a carnation, and expel all members who are being investigated for corruption. His plea comes after a proposal last month by Mino Martinazzoli, the Christian Democrat leader, that his party should change its name.

The Italian Communist party became the PDS in 1991. Mario Segni, the main inspiration of last month's referendum on electoral reform, predicted that the old Italian parties would disappear after the vote.

Signor Andreotti bowed to the inevitable as commentators predicted his immunity would surely be lifted in a secret vote in the lower house of parliament on Thursday. Yesterday newspapers said the fate of Signor Andreotti was sealed by the uproar provoked when the lower house refused last week to strip Bettino Craxi, the former Socialist leader, of his immunity so he could face corruption charges. In the unlikely event of Signor Andreotti also keeping his immunity, the fledgling government of Signor Ciampi would probably have collapsed.

Signor Andreotti, 74, said: "Convinced as I am of the total baselessness of the serious accusation constructed against me, I want only that the magistrature ascertain the full truth and responsibility." He pleaded with the Palermo judges who are dealing with his alleged collusion with the Mafia to establish the truth quickly. Not to do so was hurting the image of Italy, he said. Later Giovanni Spadolini, the Speaker of the senate, telephoned Signor Andreotti to express appreciation of his decision, saying it "would help clear up the climate in the country".

Owen plan paves way for limited allied invasion



Karadzic his position is becoming shaky

RADOVAN Karadzic initiated the Vance-Owen peace plan in much the same spirit as a bankrupt signs a cheque for a pressing creditor. He has bought time for Serbia and perhaps for himself — although the position of the Bosnian Serb psychiatrist-poet is beginning to look shaky — but the creditors should not be fooled: it is neither money in the bank nor peace in our time. The moment has come to send in the bailiffs, in the form of a Nato-run operation involving both ground troops and air support.

The strength of the Vance-Owen plan is that it provides a detailed framework for the use of military force. There has been desperate talk from Washington over the past few days — about the need to arm the Bosnian Muslims or the likely targets for air strikes — but the mood is becoming calmer, Leslie Gelb of The

Men and machines are being massed to enforce the deal signed by the Serbs. The Vance-Owen plan can justify Nato's use of a big stick, writes Roger Boyes

New York Times, one of the more lucid of America's armchair interventionists, points out: "Something critical is missing — a crystal-clear statement of sensible objectives. The omission of purpose could be disastrous." The Vance-Owen plan, now signed by all three communities, supplies precisely this purpose. Although it remains fashionable in Washington to write it off, there is a powerful case for using the blueprint to justify a limited allied invasion of Bosnia.

The Owen-Vance plan has some political merits. It acknowledges the integrity of a Bosnian state, and it makes provision for an ethnically

rotating central presidency. The negotiators have been quietly adjusting their proposed division of the country to give added territorial advantage to the Muslims. The Serbs meanwhile are rightly being denied a northern corridor linking Serb provinces. They are obliged to surrender some captured terrain. This may not add up to a great diplomatic victory but there is a kind of rough justice at work.

The real attraction of the plan is that it presupposes the deployment of large numbers of UN forces to mark out the future provinces, to take over the administration of land yielded by the Serbs, and to supervise the withdrawal and

dismantling of heavy artillery. More important, it sets tight schedules for compliance. Now that the Serbs have signed up — and no one can possibly accept that Dr Karadzic's signature should be made conditional on the sham Bosnian Serb parliament — they can be held to their word.

If Serb gunners do not stop their bombardment of Sarajevo and other cities immediately, they can be threatened with air strikes against their gun emplacements. For the first time such an ultimatum is credible — the no-fly zone is in place, the necessary intelligence has been gathered, there is a political willingness, even eagerness, to relieve the siege of Bosnian cities in this way.

Nato planners have been thinking for at least two months about how to enforce the Vance-Owen map. It will be difficult but not impossible.

Military experts reckon there is a need for between ten and 12 brigades: British, French, Canadian and the American armed forces could, at a push, come up with close to this number. Even if these numbers are not readily achieved, this should not lead to the paralysis of the Nato machine. Even limited operations, such as the forced breaking of a Serb siege, could be justified under the Vance-Owen plan and would do much to broaden the political consensus for further military action in Bosnia.

Specialist units — tough Italian mountain troops, for example, or small detachments of the SAS — could also be deployed; the sheer numbers are not as important as the fighting skills. Islamic states should be putting together a war kitty. And the United Nations needs to extend the individual powers of peace enforcement units. All

this can and should be achieved within a few short weeks.

The Vance-Owen plan is not a panacea. It is a prelude for determined action that can right a few wrongs. The Balkan crisis will not end with allied military activity, but there is now at least a clear schedule for future policy moves.

First, the Vance-Owen map should be policed and some of the victims given physical protection. Then the broader questions — of minority rights, including those of the Serbs, and the redefinition of frontiers — can be carefully negotiated. Both the generals and the diplomats should be ready for a long haul. The price is worth the effort — and the West now has the chance to restore some of the credibility that was lost during two years of blundering.

And, who knows, a few lives might just be saved.

NEWS IN BRIEF

UN takes up tough role in Somalia

Mogadishu: The United Nations takes on an unprecedented peace enforcement role in Somalia today. Not since the organisation was created in 1945 has its peacekeeping troops had a mandate to go on the offensive or disarm combatants by force.

But in Somalia, where the US hands over command of a multinational force, UN "blue berets" will not just defend themselves, but will also use force to disarm and break up militias which over the past two years have divided the country into a patchwork of fiefdoms. Madeleine Albright, the US envoy to the UN, described it as an historic undertaking.

Major David Stockwell, spokesman for the UN operation in Somalia (Unosom II), said: "We shall enforce peace. We hope for the best but we are prepared for the worst."

With a strength of 30,800, including 2,800 civilians, Unosom will not only try to complete the task of pacification started by US Marines, but also rebuild political structures and resettle hundreds of thousands of refugees and displaced people.

Jonathan Howe, the UN's special envoy to Somalia, said: "Our mission here is huge, but I believe we have enough latitude and flexibility to do the job well." (Reuters)

Saddam bars foreign trips

Cairo: President Saddam Hussein imposed restrictions on Iraqi travelling abroad amid drastic deterioration of the economy and evidence that, after two and a half years, United Nations sanctions are taking a stranglehold (Christopher Walker writes).

A 15,000-dinar (£3,200) duty is being imposed for each trip by all but diplomats and students. An Iraqi civil servant earns 500 dinars a month. Experts predict the economy will slip out of control.

Riots mark Kenya strike

Nairobi: Rioters broke bank windows and rampaged through the outskirts of the Kenyan capital, stoning and burning state-owned buses, as transport was crippled and industry affected by the country's first national strike (Sam Kiley writes).

Unions demanded the release of their detained leaders, the resignation of George Saitoti, the vice-president, whom they blame for worsening economic conditions, and 100 per cent pay rises.

Levi's pull out of China

Peking: Levi's, one of the most famous brand names in the world, is withdrawing its jeans operations from China because of the country's human rights record. The decision by Levi Strauss will cost China at least \$30 million (£19 million) in exports.

Linda Butler, Levi's manager of communications, explained: "We don't want customers wearing our jeans and shirts and be reminded about prison labour and child labour." China has recently been accused by a former prisoner, Harry Wu, of holding up to 20 million slave workers.

New strain of HIV identified

Amsterdam: Researchers in The Netherlands have identified a more virulent strain of HIV, the virus that causes Aids, which they believe accelerates the development of the disease.

The presence of the S1 (syncytium-inducing) virus, makes a patient six or seven times more likely to develop Aids within two and a half years, according to a study published in *Annals of Internal Medicine*. (Reuters)

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Elite British troops to enforce Bosnia peace agreement

FROM JAMES BONE
IN NEW YORK,
TOM WALKER
IN BRUSSELS
AND NICHOLAS WOOD

Nato's military committee convenes tomorrow to discuss the deployment of blue berets in the biggest military operation in Europe since the second world war

BRITISH troops in Nato's crack Rapid Reaction Force may be called on to spearhead the enforcement of the Bosnian peace plan by moving into Sarajevo to demilitarise the city.

Diplomats and UN officials said last night that the United Nations would ask Nato to provide an initial deployment of peacekeeping troops to uphold the peace accord before the full UN force of between 60,000 and 75,000 troops arrives in Bosnia. The first Nato troops are expected to come from the Allied Central Europe (ACE) Rapid Reaction Force, headquartered in Germany, which has a strong British element.

Planning for the Bosnian operation got under way yesterday at the alliance's political headquarters in Brussels and at its more secretive military base at Mons in southern Belgium. The land corridor, the tactical crux of the Vance-Owen plan, would guarantee access for the Serbs but bar the transport of arms, except those needed for local police.

Tomorrow Nato's military committee will convene in Brussels to discuss the "next stage," the deployment of blue berets that will be the biggest military operation in Europe since the second world war. The commanders involved, chaired by Field Marshal Sir Richard Vincent of the British army, will keep a eye on events at the Bosnian Serb parliament, where the headline assembly will vote on whether to endorse the Athens deal accepted by Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader.

Diplomats say a British brigade of 7,000 men serving with the Rapid Reaction Force's multinational air mobile division is likely to be one of the units used for a quick Nato deployment in Bosnia. A British division is on standby in Bulford, Wiltshire, which includes two mechanised infantry brigades of 7,000 each plus the Aldershot-based parachute brigade of a further 5,000 men. "These are the ready troops," one Nato source said.

Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, was yesterday considering what level of UN political control he would require before allowing the international force, which will include Russians, to fly the UN flag. The UN made clear

that it does not consider the Bosnian Serbs' acceptance of the peace plan to be dependent on the vote by their parliament.

Nato sources in Brussels yesterday doubted whether a 70,000-strong force of blue berets would be sufficient to help implement the peace deal. On Thursday, Manfred Wörner, the Nato secretary-general, may advise Warren Christopher, the American

MUSLIM AID

Saudi Arabia has donated £13 million to help Bosnian Muslims, according to the 51-member Organisation of the Islamic Conference. Kuwait has donated £6 million, according to the daily *Al-Qabas* newspaper. (Reuters, AP)

Secretary of State, that more peacekeeping troops will be needed, particularly in view of the reluctance of many Serb fighters on the ground to accept the plan.

Concern at Nato headquarters has been focused on the six-mile-wide demilitarised corridor linking Serb-controlled territory in Bosnia and Croatia, one of the plan's principal tenets and one only begrudgingly allowed by the Bosnian Serbs. "If you're talking about a corridor, that means more troops," a Nato

source said. A full-scale Nato council meeting will then be held later in the week, after Mr Christopher's visit to Brussels, probably to rubber-stamp whatever troop option is finally chosen.

At Westminster last night Sir Nicholas Bonsor, chairman of the all-party Commons defence committee, said it would be unrealistic to expect the Americans to supply more than half the total numbers. Labour and Liberal Democrat leaders said that the British forces were overstretched because of defence cuts and demanded an end to amalgamations of regiments.

However, Downing Street officials emphasised that the composition of the forces that would be needed to supervise a ceasefire and the implementation of the Vance-Owen plan would be a matter for Dr Boutros Ghali. The joint statement issued after the Chevening meeting papered over the cracks in the Anglo-American stance by referring to the readiness of Washington and London to take unspecified military action.

"We are developing a common position with our partners and allies on stronger measures to be taken if the Serbs fail to implement the peace settlement," it said. "Several options are under consideration, including military steps."

Clinton stand, page 1



Refugees thirst for vengeance

FROM RICHARD BRESTON
IN TURBIE

WITH their prospects as bleak as the snow-capped mountains marking this frontline position, the 230 Muslim refugees making the brief and bumpy ride to join Bosnia's legion of dispossessed could still muster a smile and a wave as they looked out from the back of the British army lorry transporting them.

Victims of the campaign of intimidation that has forced hundreds of thousands of ethnic minorities into voluntary exile, they were abandoning everything they owned in Banja Luka, their Serb-controlled home town. At best they could hope for a thin mattress, a dirty blanket and a space on the crowded floor of a fetid classroom in the nearby town of Travnik, now overflowing with thousands of displaced people.

From the youngest infant to a crippled man of 83, however, their sense of relief was palpable as they pulled away from the watchful gaze of Bogdan Ristic, the Serb commander who oversees the final act in the process of ethnic cleansing. "They are just economic migrants in search of a better life in the West, which has opened its doors to them," he said. His actions and remarks yesterday placed in doubt any hopes that the Bosnian Serbs on the ground are willing to share this shattered country with their ethnic rivals under the terms of the Vance-Owen agreement signed by Radovan Karadzic, their leader, in Athens on Sunday.

"He's the president of the republic and I serve in his army," Mr Ristic said. But he could not resist airing his real feelings. "If the United Nations and the West want peace, they can achieve it in 24 hours. All they have to do is stop interfering."

"If their solution to this is to start bombing Serb targets, then they should act right now. Muslim, Croats and UN forces will perish in much larger numbers than the Serbs."

While diplomats and politicians may believe peace to be in prospect, the enmity fostered by more than a year of war has left deep wounds that Serbs, Muslims and Croats seem unwilling to let heal.

Not surprisingly, the so-called "economic migrants" driven into exile by their Serb tormentors also have little faith that the Bosnian Serb government has overnight had a change of heart and is now willing to live peacefully in a multiethnic society. "I heard about the Vance-Owen plan as we were leaving our home," said a father of four who abandoned everything



Making tracks: women walking back to one of the many refugee camps outside Tuzla. Thousands of dispossessed Muslims also remain in Turbie, near Travnik

he had to escape the reign of terror in Banja Luka's Vrbanka Muslim quarter. He asked not to be named for fear of retribution against his parents, who stayed behind.

"The Serbs say one thing and do another," he added, recalling how he was stripped of his job, harassed, and finally given no option but to flee. "We had to come. People were being maltreated. The Serbs would not even let us out of our homes." Like other escapees, he told of beatings,

robberies and murders at the hands of both Serb authorities and armed thugs who prey on the shrinking Muslim and Croat populations.

"I don't know what will happen to us now," he said. "I suppose someone will move into our house. I hope we can go abroad, because I do not believe we shall ever return to our home."

Although it was hard to coax a laugh from the refugees, some did manage to chuckle when asked if they

could envisage returning home and living under Bosnian Serb rule once again, as the Vance-Owen peace plan stipulates, calling for the partition of Bosnia-Herzegovina into ten provinces.

"Sure, I plan to go back home, but it will never be under Serbian rule," said Emir J. In his eyes, the conflict will last for many years until one day the Muslims will claim their "blood revenge" and turn the tables on their Serb tormentors.

Of mice, men and the March of the Janissaries

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN
IN FUZULI, AZERBAIJAN

ANYONE who has ever been offered a hotel bed containing a dead, decaying mouse will know what it is like to travel in Azerbaijan. As unpleasant as the animal itself was the fact that, to judge by its condition, it had been there a very long time.

The mouse had its excuses: the town of Fuzuli, where this hotel is situated, is just behind the Azerbaijani front line and has occasionally been bombed by the Armenians. Hotels in other parts of Azerbaijan also have plenty of rodents of their own but at least they keep out of the beds.

Mice would probably also like to occupy Azerbaijan Airlines but lack the courage. Apart from the quality of the aircraft, they may have been frightened away by the various large animals allowed to travel with their owners. These add to the general overcrowding, which is worsened by the extra seats, about 30 per cent above the intended number, that have been

installed. In fact, Azerbaijan Airlines give a whole new meaning to the word "airbus" — if an ordinary, decrepit Azeri bus were to sprout wings and take to the air, it would be very like one of its planes.

The sense of imminent doom on this airline is increased by the surreal quality of the orders coming over the loudspeaker: "No smoking" to impennable clouds of cheap Soviet tobacco smoke; and "Fasten your seat belts" when there are no seat belts whatsoever. I do not know if Azeri pilots, like the bus drivers, have now taken to pinning up portraits of Ayatollah Khomeini but they certainly ought to be praying to somebody.

The indescribable awfulness of the entire service sector in Azerbaijan is in strange contrast to the innate hospitality of ordinary people. In the town of Zankelani, a farmer's family put up several foreign journalists at half-an-hour's notice, asking no payment and rising at 5am the next morning to give us tea and see us on our way. Most Azeri hotels, by contrast, cannot pro-

vide a cup of tea at any hour. All the Turkic peoples are hospitable, yet none of them has been any good at the service sector. They always left this to various minorities, such as the Armenians, who have often now fled.

The really depressing thing about travelling inside Azerbaijan, however, is that wherever you go, it usually still feels like the Soviet Union. Elsewhere in the world, hellish journeys may end in the revelation of a new culture but Azeri culture and style have been flattened and drained of life by decades of Soviet rule.

Even the new "Islamic fundamentalists" are deeply Soviet in many ways and their grasp of Muslim theology and culture leaves much to be desired. I spoke to three dedicated young Muslim radicals outside a mosque in Baku. The sanctness of their Islamic knowledge was matched only by the thinness of their obviously very new

nationalism, which tends to point towards a desire for the "liberation" of the large Azeri minority in Iran. When I asked if the taped call to prayer from their mosque had been brought from Iran, they bristled visibly: "Don't you think that we are as good Muslims as the Iranians?"

In contemporary Azerbaijan, the Soviet-inspired tendency to dogmatism coexists with an equally strong inclination to cynicism and indifference, also products of Soviet rule. This underlying lack of commitment is very apparent in the attitudes of ordinary people to participation in the war with Armenia, even after the loss of large swathes of Azeri territory.

Until late into the night near our hotel in Fuzuli, the public address system was belting out taped patriotic music and appeals to the local population to die to the last man. Most of them, however, had long since fled, although Armenian bombardments of the town had so far been very slight. The *March of the Janissaries* blared out into the empty night.

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حکومت اسلامی

Tourists flee rebel attack on Angkor temple city

By briefly occupying Cambodia's main tourist centre, the Khmer Rouge scored a big psychological victory. It also dealt a serious blow to this month's UN-organised elections

By JAMES PRINGLE

TOURISTS fled from their hotels to the safety of United Nations compounds on Sunday night when Khmer Rouge guerrillas attacked and penetrated the northwest Cambodian town of Siem Reap.

The incursion into the provincial capital was a big psychological blow to UN efforts to hold free elections in Cambodia this month and was the worst ceasefire violation since the deployment of UN troops in March last year. The troops of General Ta "Grandfather" Mok, the one-legged military commander of the Khmer

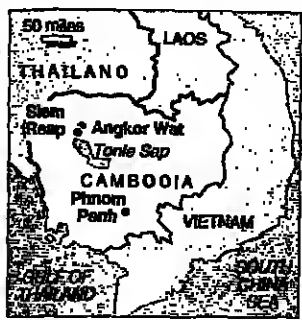
later reported to be quiet. Tourists, in Siem Reap to visit the famous Angkor temples, were evacuated from their hotels and took refuge with French Foreign Legion and Bangladeshi troops stationed in the town to disarm the various factions and help with civil projects.

No tourists or UN personnel were injured in the raid. According to military sources, however, 13 Khmer Rouge guerrillas were reportedly killed by Phnom Penh forces in a counter-attack just after dawn yesterday.

In spite of having signed the Paris accords in October 1991, the Khmer Rouge has refused to disarm or take part in the UN-supervised elections scheduled from May 23 to 27. Its leaders withdrew from Phnom Penh last month and threatened to disrupt the voting.

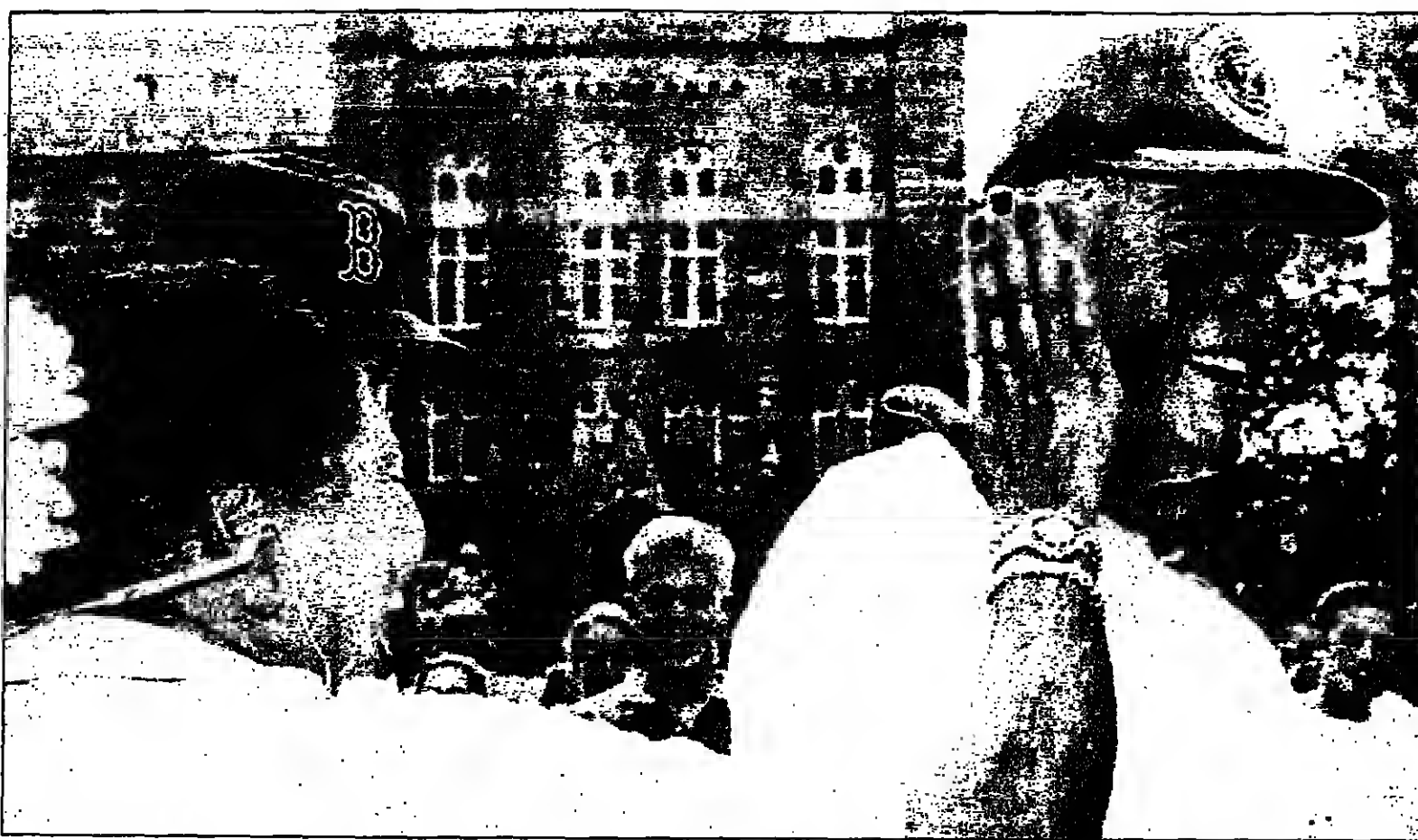
The guerrillas, said by sources in Siem Reap to number about 200, later began withdrawing from the area. "They do not have the capacity to remain there for a long period," Mr Falt said.

The ancient Angkor temple complex is important as a symbol of national identity for Cambodians; the towers of Angkor Wat, the main temple, appear on the flags of all the Cambodian factions, including that of the Khmer Rouge itself. Diplomats in the region said last night that the incursion could have a serious effect on the UN's battered image in Cambodia and might further undermine the morale of UN troops.



Rouge northern region, also attacked the airport.

In Phnom Penh, Eric Falt, spokesman for the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (Untac), said the raid on Siem Reap, 150 miles northwest of the capital, was apparently aimed at a garrison of the Phnom Penh regime near Angkor rather than at Untac itself, although a Polish supply depot north of the airport was damaged. Some guerrillas reached the town centre and took control of the airport for a while, but the situation was



Marked man: a woman attempting to remove her lipstick from President Clinton's face after she pushed her way through a crowd of college students to plant a kiss on his cheek. The US leader was on a weekend jog through the campus of Georgetown University in Washington

President's murder rekindles fears of Tamil onslaught

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN COLOMBO

NEWSPAPERS and state television in Sri Lanka carried a police photograph yesterday of a severed head said to be from a young suicide bomber who assassinated President Premadasa on May Day. No one came forward to identify it, despite repeated appeals, adding to the mystery of who was behind the murder.

Despite denying responsibility, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam remain the main suspects. The killing has put paid to talk of the rebels being a spent force. Newspaper cartoons in Colombo had begun to show the Tigers with their tails between their legs. They have suffered two years of military setbacks during which they have retreated to their stronghold in the Jaffna peninsula, an enclave without electricity or running water. The Tigers remain a formidable

dable fighting force against the 80,000-strong army. They killed 1,100 soldiers last year and injured 2,000. The army, too, can boast successes. It has eliminated the rebels' presence in the Eastern province and has retained control of Elephant Pass, a strategic entry point to Jaffna. It has long believed it could capture Jaffna, but Premadasa ordered them to hold back in the hope of negotiating a settlement.

The quest for an end to the ten-year civil war, which has claimed 20,000 lives and created hundreds of thousands of refugees, has now lost its steam. The political infighting that has begun in Colombo has put the ethnic war on the back burner and left the army without any clear political guidance. The governing United Na-

tional Party has decided to nominate Dingiri Banda Wijetunga, the acting president, as its presidential candidate, thus ensuring his election by MPs next month. But Mr Wijetunga is not seen as a strong leader, and will be permitted to hold the post only until popular presidential elections next year. A weakened government will find it difficult to push through any constitutional changes to bring about peace with the Tamil Tigers, and negotiations are unlikely to make much headway without decisive political leadership. One plan discussed secretly between the government and the rebels was to establish a federal structure giving autonomy over most affairs to the Tamil-dominated Northern province. That plan died with Premadasa.

Mandela seeks British backing

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

NELSON Mandela, president of the African National Congress, will address a joint session of both houses of Parliament in London tomorrow in an effort to win firm support from the British government for the ANC's drive to have a date for the country's first multiracial election set by the end of this month.

He will also hold talks with John Major and John Smith, the Labour party leader, to brief them on the state of the multiparty constitutional negotiations.

Mr Mandela flew to Britain from Johannesburg last night, only a few hours after Chief Mangosuthu Buthe, leader of the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP), arrived back in South Africa after discussions with Mr Major. Chief Buthe made it clear that Inkatha considered that

political violence and not an election date should be the priority issue. But both the South African government and ANC have accused Inkatha of using stalling tactics at the negotiations.

Mr Mandela will be visiting Britain for the fourth time since his release from prison in February 1990. He is likely to emphasise that, although he believes considerable progress has been made in the talks, the rank-and-file is becoming impatient for results.

Whites warned: A warning of more attacks on whites was given yesterday by an anonymous caller to a South African news agency who claimed the Azanian National Liberation Army, military wing of the Black Consciousness Movement of Azania, was responsible for killing five men at an East London hotel.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Deportees get rousing Jordanian send off

Amman: Rawhi al-Khatib, 78, a former mayor of Jerusalem, and 13 other Palestinian deportees and their families were given a tumultuous farewell in their adopted home in Jordan yesterday when they left to return to the occupied territories.

The deportees are the second batch of the 30 to have been allowed back in less than a week. Mahmoud Kidri, another deportee, is expected to arrive in Amman from Sofia today and to return home tomorrow. Israel has agreed to allow them to return as a goodwill gesture at the Middle East talks. As many as 2,000 activists have been expelled from the occupied territories since 1967. (Reuters)

Wine king dies

San Francisco: Julio Gallo, 82, co-founder of one of California's biggest wineries, was killed when his jeep plunged down a 30ft embankment on a family ranch. The Gallo winery controls about a quarter of the wine market in the United States. (Reuters)

Blasts hurt 38

Delhi: Two bombs planted in a cinema and bus station injured 38 people, eight critically, in the Kashmir city of Jammu. Earlier five militants drowned in the river Jhelum fleeing an Indian security search. (Reuters)

Gold fingers

Perth: Australian authorities have used the technique of "fingerprinting" gold developed by Dr John Watling, a British-educated geologist and geochemist, to trace stolen gold to its source. (Reuters)

Shots fired

Seoul: North Korean soldiers fired on a southern guardpost across the border in the demilitarized zone, a US military spokesman said. No one was injured in the incident, started accidentally. (Reuters)

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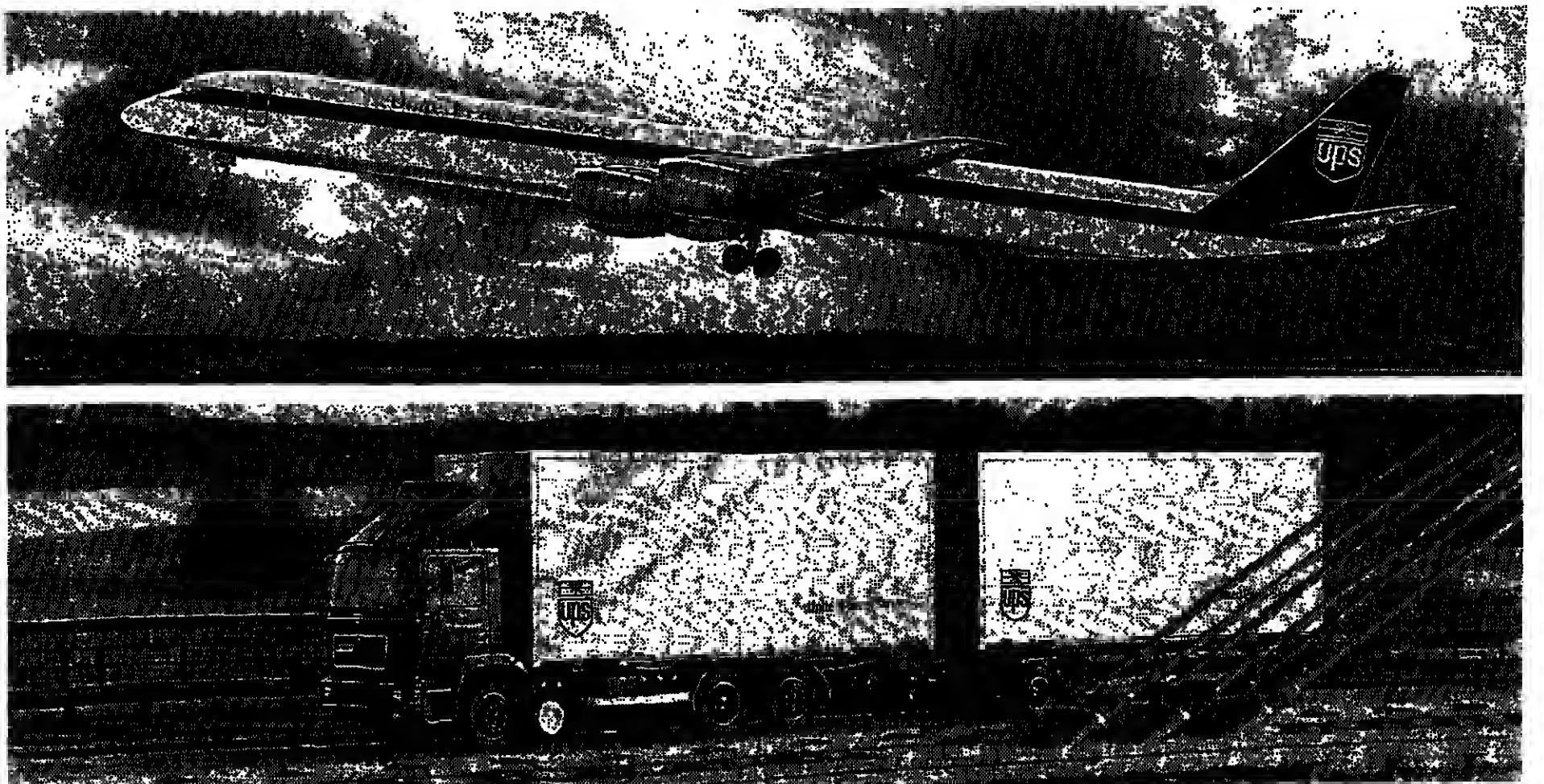
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Yesterday Julie Burchill slated the list of top 20 young British novelists. Victoria Glendinning disagrees

Art of the snap judgment

Young, British and unreadable



Lists can be a lot of fun," as she says. Julie Burchill is naive if she really believes that while hype aims at pushing a product for profit, this campaign promotes infinitely nobler notions. What is more, if she spent any time with our so-called literary novelists she would not find them the least bit contemptuous of "our modern world of marketing". They want as much of the action as they can get.

Bill Buford, introducing extracts from the 20 chosen ones in *Granta*, writes that The Best of Young British Novelists, now as ten years ago, is a marketing campaign on a par with the Meat Marketing Council's efforts to sell dead cows: "at its most elementary level, nothing more than a gimmick to get people to buy literary novels".

But if you get Anthonia Byatt and Salman Rushdie on your judging panel, they will take the job seriously, and not only because they are dedicated to the craft of writing. I know from chairing last year's Booker panel that if anyone undertakes to give up hours and hours of time in order to read and assess piles and piles of books, it just has to be taken seriously. Otherwise you are either a knave or a fool.

But like all lists this one is just a list, and not, as Buford tentatively hopes, "a serious statement about British literary culture", any more than the result of this year's Grand National was a serious statement

about the best horse over the distance. The *Granta* list is not similarly botched, but it is a gamble.

Other judges would have produced other lists. Julie Burchill has given us hers. Someone's list of the Worst of Young British Novelists might, conceivably, have included names from her list, as from *Granta*'s. Responses to fiction, especially contemporary fiction, are subjective. Burchill should be comfortable with that. She makes her living by being opinionated, some might say bigoted.

What are literary novels, anyway? It is begging the question to say that they are the ones that publishers and literary editors agree to treat as such. It was this comfortable consensus, however, that spawned a belief in the novel's renaissance, with the Martin Amis / Ian McEwan generation. A genre was born. Why has this new list elicited screams of pain, as if it were no "fun" at all?

A lot of people have terrible trouble knowing what they think, right across the board from what should be done in Bosnia to what colour toothbrush to buy. A list like *Granta*'s fills even the keenest of readers with panic because they have never heard of some of the authors, let alone read them.

Burchill, paradoxically, brings snap. She has no trouble with the snap judgment. Burchill is the rebel who is half in love with careful

authoritarianism. She is on record as having a soft spot for Stalin. Her article is a May Day parade of her artillery. It demonstrates, at least, respect for some imaginary enemy.

Ten years ago, her manner came across as brassychutzpah. Now, she is a loose cannon. Not only the novel is dead, according to her, but "British pop, poetry and drama" as well. She is relied on by editors to be controversial about topical events. She niche-marks herself, like Auberon Waugh and A.N. Wilson, both of whom are outrageous in print, and rational and kindly in their non-columnar lives. I expect Burchill is too.

Her current niche, apart from the *Mail on Sunday*, is *The Modern Review*, in which the piece above first appeared. *The Modern Review* was born in autumn 1991, edited by Toby Young, with Julie Burchill and Cosmo Landesman listed on the masthead as contributing editors. This magazine is pretty smart. It is very good about film, and full of misprints. It is also a prime example of how and why we get in such a twist about the assumed distinction between literary and commercial fiction.

The Modern Review celebrates popular culture. It is precisely the English distrust of "difficult and elitist" culture, asserted Burchill in the first issue, that makes our pop genius possible. It is the "unlettered, vulgar quality" of roass culture which makes it so appeal-

ing, wrote Toby Young. "If it were any more respectable it would lose its irreverent wit and energy." *The Modern Review*'s mission was to preserve pop's lowbrow profile.

But how true, *The Modern Review* itself turned out to be rather a "difficult and elitist" publication, with uncompromising slabs of text like in the *London Review of Books*: Only constant references to Arnold Schwarzenegger, and Burchill's own Glenda Slaggish contributions, preserved its, er, irreverent wit and energy.

The Modern Review faced up to its egg-headedness. It is now subtitled "Low Culture for Highbrows". There is a regular feature headed Cult Studs. Naturally, I assumed we were back with Schwarzenegger. But no, it is a booklist of current bestsellers in the field of

Cultural Studies. The magazine's line is that Cult Studs academics are jargon-ridden, mostly Marxist, and patronising about pop culture, whereas the authentic response is visceral, immediate and capitalist.

Cult Studs fight back in the correspondence pages. Both sides are equally verbose, and many column inches are filled. The magazine, to judge from the lavish ads for Cult Studs books from university presses, and the diary column about forthcoming Cult Studs conferences, has found a constituency. The magazine's team are having their cake and eating it. They admire Camille Paglia. They reckon to despise the way literary culture pillages popular culture, which is what Paglia does. So does

their magazine. Nothing wrong with walking a tightrope so long as you don't look down. Ray Sawhill, writing from New York, has a piece in a recent issue attacking the whole concept of literary fiction, which makes some sense. He thinks that literary novels, frequently in America the product of academic creative-writing schools, comprise just another genre or category, but one that won't admit it is a category.

Literary fiction is defined negatively — not horror, not crime, not sci-fi, not Agassias, not bodice-rippers. There is no intrinsic reason why category fiction should not be part of English literature. Left and Right are not useful indicators in politics any more, except at the uncompromising edges. The same is true of highbrow and lowbrow —

and I'm not talking about middle-brow, I'm talking about excellence, which can come from anywhere.

Some books are better and more important than others. *Crime and Punishment* is better than *Damage*. But the walls come tumbling down. British fiction is fine, but there's an awful lot of it and it's sprouting all over the place. A television researcher rang me last week to ask whether I thought novelists were writing "the wrong sort of novel". That's like British Rail and the wrong sort of snow. It's so good looking for the literary novel where you think you last saw it.

Julie Burchill seems sad on the *Modern Review*'s tightrope. Come down and join the world. "But once she gets a bee in her bonnet, she goes on, and on and on..."

Victoria Glendinning: "Burchill's article is a May Day parade of her artillery. It demonstrates, at least, respect for some imaginary enemy"



Don't cycle in the quad, luvvy

Oxford students are studying for exams and working as extras in Richard Attenborough's film about C.S. Lewis

There is something wrong with the head porter. He is dressed in a three-piece suit, with full academic gown, and obviously believes he is the senior tutor. Like some real-life Skullion, escaped from *Porterhouse Blue*, he is evidently part of a successful coup, and one wonders who on Earth — possibly the chef — has murdered the president and taken over the college.

But then reality breaks in. The "senior tutor" raises his walking stick and calls out to the lodge. "Shut the main gate. There's people there just walking in and out. And you (pointing to a helpless undergraduate, who cringes in fear): what are you doing with that bicycle? Get it out of 'ere. Don't you know you're not allowed to bring a bicycle into the quad?"

Thus is the natural order restored. For Michael Strutt, the head porter of Magdalen College, Oxford, it is the end of

another morning's filming. *Shadowlands*, the story of the autumn love affair between C.S. Lewis and his American bride, Joy Davidman, is adapted from the successful stage play by William Nicholson. Across the quad, in the chapel, the stars, Sir Anthony Hopkins and Debra Winger, are still chatting with Sir Richard Attenborough, the director, while the supporting cast and ranks of undergraduate "extras" drift slowly across the lawns, complaining of the heat.

"Marvelous", Mr Strutt says, running a finger inside his stiff white collar. "Lovely fun. Sir Richard's perfectionist. The work that's going in this is tremendous. If it doesn't win a Oscar for him, I don't know what will." He strides off, chortling, towards a crowd of onlookers, which is threatening a break-in. "Sorry, ladies and gents. The college is closed."

Film-making is a notoriously egotistical business, and when one of Oxford's grandest colleges throws in its lot with the prima donnas of the silver screen, it might be thought an explosive mix. In fact, everyone is perfectly relaxed, and the conversion of Magdalen's venerable cloister into a "location" seems to have gone without a hitch.

Lewis, a don at Magdalen for 30 years, was something of a curmudgeon when it came to the world beyond academe, and the idea that his precious relationship with Joy should end up on video, watched by millions, would have appalled him. The author of the *Narnia* cycle, *The Screwtape Letters* and innumerable volumes of Christian reflection and literary criticism, was a fascinating man, much more human than he would allow, and his relationship with Joy — begun when he was already 55 — first became public property when



Yankee at Oxford: Debra Winger plays Lewis's late love

he wrote *A Grief Observed*, albeit under a pseudonym, shortly after her death, in 1959.

They were without question an odd couple. He was a Belfast man, immensely learned, whose entire life centred on Oxford and Cambridge, and who worried constantly that his marriage to a divorcee was invalid under canon law. She was an abrasive New Yorker, of Jewish origins, who had two children by an alcoholic American philanthropist. She disliked her native country and was determined to become "English". They met because of her interest in Lewis's religious writings (she had converted to Christianity in middle life), and, having hooked her idol, she never let him go, winning first his respect, then his love, both carnal and spiritual.

Joy's death, from cancer, at first shattered Lewis. Later, he was to reconcile himself to it and even came to believe that, in essence, she was with him still and would be joined with him in heaven. It was this metaphysical approach to love, combined with the intensity of the couple's feelings for each other, that led Nicholson to explore their relationship.

The play's translation to film will be greatly aided by its Oxford setting. Magdalen, according to Lewis, was "beautiful beyond compare". The college, currently accelerating towards exam time, has greeted the arrival of Hopkins, Winger and Attenborough with virtually unmitigated joy. Undergraduates — some of whom, in these days of student loans, genuinely need the cash — have been drafted in to play their 1950s predecessors, and even the dons have been persuaded to do their bit, giving up their "smoking room" to the professional cast in an unprecedented gesture that Lewis would have condemned as an outrage to

civilised society. Anthony Smith, Magdalen's president and a former head of the British Film Institute, therefore an honorary "luvvy", has extended to Attenborough every facility in the making of *Shadowlands*. In return, Sir Richard has undertaken not only to pay the college an undisclosed five-figure sum, but to ensure there is no disruption of teaching and, in particular, of the preparation of final-year students for "schools". His people are tiptoeing through the college as quietly as a 100-strong film unit can.

Undergraduates not taking examinations and who have the time to dress up in early 1950s costumes are equally enthusiastic. Juliet Godwin, a first year student of politics, philosophy and economics, complains that her "sensible" shoes are too tight. Sonya MacNulty, another first year, taking law, has already rearranged one tutorial. "The best thing", she says, "will be when the entire college crowd goes into town en masse to see the film."

Lewis would wonder what to make of it all. For him, life on Earth, especially after his bereavement, was another kind of illusion, conducted in the long shadow of death. It is Aslan, the Creator in the *Narnia* books, who spells this out for us, offering as reward for valiant endeavour the prize of resurrection. In *The Final Battle*, when all energy has been spent and the children, and their friends, have come back to him, he tells them: "Your father and mother and all of you are — as you used to call it — in the shadowlands. dead... the dream is ended: this is the morning."

As Sir Richard would say: "Cut."

WALTER ELLIS

The man who was driven to suicide

France has been shocked by the age-old spirit of malice in its public life, says Charles Bremner

DOCTORS were still trying to save Pierre Bérégovoy from his self-inflicted head wound on Saturday when the fingers began pointing and France was forced once again to face that less attractive side of its national character: the capacity for suspicion and malice among citizens which has so marked its history. In his last interview, on Thursday, his suicide already planned, the former premier blamed the spirit of malice that had stalked his 11 months in office, saying he had been a victim of "un climat délétère".

For Jack Lang, the former culture minister, "Béré" had been "murdered by the establishment". Paul Quilès, his interior minister, called down shame on those who hunted down the former prime minister. The villains were identified with more precision by Michel Charasse, the former budget minister: M Bérégovoy had, he said, been driven to suicide by investigating judges and the media.

He was not talking about M Bérégovoy's humiliation as leader of the government which went down to the worst electoral defeat this century. Rather, the hints of conspiracy sprang from a feeling that, as the only working-class member of the Mitterrand circle and a man who had long been regarded as the embodiment of rectitude, he had been unjustly disgraced by a smear campaign. This began in February after a judge told the press that he had uncovered a questionable loan to M Bérégovoy from a businessman friend who was later accused of insider trading. The subsequent blow to his sense of honour most contributed to his despair and suicide, his entourage said.

What makes such an affair different in France from, say, the Anglo-Saxon countries, is the distrust and enmity which so readily erupts in the political-media world, fuelled by a general belief in conspiracy and by weak legal laws. Thanks to the latter, a few leaks from examining judges, often with their own agendas, can cause havoc, leaving innocent victims with no way of clearing their names. Sometimes the rumours lead to criminal charges, as they have done in the "affaires" which clouded the Socialists' final years. The Bérégovoy leak, however, generated a textbook case of what the French call "amalgame", the linking of unconnected circumstances to blacken someone's name.

He had committed no crime. His offence was the apparent impropriety of accepting what amounted to a relatively small gift, which he duly reported to the tax authorities at the time. Privately, friendly politicians depicted M Bérégovoy's action as naive, not venal. But the news was enough to drag in all the other Socialist scandals, from the prosecution of two of M Bérégovoy's own

chiefs of staff in the finance ministry to the illegal financing of the Socialist party. He was especially vulnerable because of the collapse of the Socialists' authority and the public scorn for all the political classes.

The French are the first to agonise over their penchant for beastliness to each other, a trait which has been exemplified in the country's long affection for "la délation", or reporting each other to the authorities. Some historians blame the revolution for the habit. The Convention of 1793 made denunciation a patriotic duty, ensuring that many an innocent went to the guillotine on the anonymous nod of a jealous neighbour. The release this week of the first feature film on Marshal Pétain is ensuring that no one forgets the shameful délation of the Nazi occupation.

According to the magazine *L'Événement du Jeudi*, the French have lost little of their taste for reporting each other to the police. Eight per cent of tax audits are, for example, carried out on anonymous tip-offs. The launch of a citizen's crime show based on Britain's *Crimewatch* has also raised the topic. Such a show had been banned until recently because, in the words of M Mitterrand's last communications minister, "it would be an excuse for la délation which I do not want to see reappearing in France".

After two shows, the main judges' union is appealing to the government to halt it for the same reasons. *Le Monde* cast an admiring eye on the foreign versions last week, saying *Crimewatch* showed the "astonishing civic sense" of the British.

The paradox presented by the meaninglessness of *la délation* and the haunting of M Bérégovoy on one side and the well-known qualities of generosity and grace which mark the good side of the French on the other, has exercised commentators for centuries. Alexis de Tocqueville was one of several to trace the paradox to the citizen's feeling of helplessness in the face of an indifferent, all-powerful state, whether embodied by king or republican government.

Profoundly shocked by the Bérégovoy suicide, the governing and media classes are saying there is too much cruelty abroad in public life. François Léotard, the new conservative defence minister and himself a target of judicial investigation, said yesterday M Bérégovoy was the first victim in a coming "holocaust" to be inflicted on the political world by a malicious media. But the prime minister Edouard Balladur, sipping tea in his drawing room, denied that life had become too cruel for French politicians. "It's always been like that," he said.



Bérégovoy: victimised

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حکومتی الامین

Marijuana: the best medicine?

Annabel Ferriman
reports on the powerful medical case for making cannabis legal

When 14-year-old Danny Grinspoon was first given a powerful new drug for his leukaemia, he could not stop vomiting. After several weeks, his mother could stand the strain no longer. Having read that cannabis could mitigate the effects of such nausea, she decided to act. On the way to his next treatment session, she stopped at Danny's school, and spoke to one of his friends. She asked him if he could get her some marijuana and, once he recovered from his disbelief, the boy complied.

When Danny's father, Dr Lester Grinspoon, arrived at the hospital, he was surprised to find both mother and son enjoying a private joke. They eventually confessed what they had done and how Danny had smoked the drug in the hospital car park.

"My surprise gave way to relief as I saw how comfortable Danny was," he says. "He did not protest as he was given a medicine, and we were all delighted when no nausea or vomiting followed. On the way home he asked his mother for a sandwich, and when he got home, he began his usual activities instead of going straight to bed."

Now Dr Grinspoon, associate professor of psychiatry at Harvard medical school, has written a powerful book about the medical uses of cannabis, in which he recounts not only his own family's experience (including the eventual death of his son) but that of more than 30 other patients, who have found relief in marijuana.

Patients, including the eminent professor Stephen Jay Gould, give moving personal accounts of how it has helped them with the seizures of epilepsy, the weight loss of AIDS, the nausea of chemotherapy, the pains of menstruation and childbirth, and the spasms of multiple sclerosis. Glaucoma sufferers also testify that it can lower the pressure within the eye, so avoiding the onset of blindness.

Many of these patients were allowed cannabis on compassionate grounds, until the anti-drug and anti-smoking lobbies joined forces in 1991, and persuaded the US government to outlaw the prescribing of marijuana for medicinal purposes. Only a few patients who already had a prescription were allowed to continue. In Britain, doctors are forbidden from prescribing it by the Misuse of Drugs Act, 1971, but can prescribe a chemical substitute, Nabilone, which shares some properties.



Smoking to get high: but seriously ill patients have testified to the palliative effects of marijuana

Yet the book marshals strong evidence for the effectiveness of the plant itself and points out that its medicinal properties have been recognised in some parts of the world, particularly China, India, the Middle East and South East Asia, for thousands of years. Its popularity spread to Europe in medieval times and Robert Burton, the English derynman, recommended it for depression in his work

The Anatomy of Melancholy, published in 1621. Even Queen Victoria was prescribed it by her court physician.

So could it become legally prescribable in Britain within the next decade? When you next visit your doctor, could you be prescribed a joint? Most British doctors are sceptical. "I have had patients in the past who have found cannabis helpful for the nausea resulting from chemotherapy," says Dr Jeff Tobias, consultant radiotherapist at University College Hospital, London. "I have prescribed the chemical equivalent, Nabilone, a few times. Anti-nausea drugs are so good now that we can usually find one that is effective."

Similarly, eye specialists are sceptical about its use for glaucoma. Roger Hitchings, consultant ophthalmologist at Moorfields Eye Hospital, London, said: "Cannabis has not been shown to be useful in the treatment of chronic glaucoma." Doctors specialising in AIDS recognise that many patients use cannabis, but are not sure that it has medical benefits. However, doctors who care for victims of multiple sclerosis, the neurological condition, are less dismissive. Dr James Malone-Lee, a consultant urologist at St Pancras Hospital, London has several patients with MS who use cannabis regularly.

"I am impressed with what they tell me," he says. "They say it helps reduce the spasticity in their arms and legs. Some of my patients have told me that it has made a huge difference to their lives."

Dr Grinspoon's conclusion is that the only way to ensure that the medicinal benefits of cannabis reach those who need them is to make the drug legal for adults. He knows that his book will provoke an avalanche of abuse when it is published next week. He has written about the subject before.

"I know that I will be vilified because of hate mail and threats I have received in the past," he says. "I will be criticised for relying on anecdotal evidence instead of on controlled trials. But the benefits of many drugs, such as aspirin, insulin and penicillin, were recognised without controlled trials."

● *Marijuana: The Forbidden Medicine*, by Lester Grinspoon and James B. Bakalar, Yale University Press (£15.95)

Not only was most of this patient's life saved by the use of cannabis, but it was also legalised for all uses by adults, rather than trying to get it licensed as a drug."

'It worked like a charm'

"I AM a member of a very small, very fortunate, and very select group — the first survivors of the previously incurable cancer, abdominal mesothelioma."

I had surgery, followed by a month of radiation, chemotherapy, more surgery, and a subsequent year of additional chemotherapy. I found that I could control the less severe nausea of radiation by conventional medicines. But when I started intravenous chemotherapy (Adriamycin (R)), absolutely nothing in the available arsenal of anti-emetics worked at all. I was miserable and came to dread the frequent treatments with an almost perverse intensity.

I had heard that marijuana often worked well against nausea. I was reluctant to try it because I have never smoked any substance habitually (and did not even know how to inhale). Moreover, I had tried marijuana twice (in the usual context of growing up in the sixties) and had hated it. (I am



something of a puritan on the subject of substances that, in any way, dull or alter mental states — for I value my rational mind with an academician's overweening arrogance. But anything to avoid nausea and the perverse wish it induces for an end of treatment.

The rest of the story is short and sweet. Marijuana worked like a charm. I disliked the side-effect of mental blurring (the main effect for recreational users), but the sheer bliss of not experiencing nausea — and then not having to fear it for all the days intervening between treatments — was the greatest boost I received in all my year of treatment, and surely had a most important effect upon my eventual cure. It is beyond my comprehension that any humane person would withhold such a beneficial substance from people in such great need, simply because others use it for different purposes.

STEPHEN JAY GOULD

A computer system will allow GPs to monitor individual diabetic patients

Sweet news for the diabetes sufferer

Abigail George, 13, is a healthy, articulate teenager who skis, plays tennis and, once in a while, slopes off to cafes for hamburgers and chips with her girl friends. Unlike most other girls of her age, when she does any of these things, she has to think extremely carefully about the consequences. She is one of a growing number of children in the UK with diabetes.

A hard game of tennis must be balanced, immediately, with a high-energy snack: a piece of cake must be countered by exercise. Self-administered insulin injections and thrice-daily, fingerprick blood sugar checks are just part of her life. Her constant companions are a supply of biscuits, fruit pastilles and a blood sugar analysis machine, not much bigger than a tape cassette. All are designed to ensure that she does not have a hypoglycaemic attack, in which the blood sugar levels drop dangerously low, causing confusion and unconsciousness.

Abigail is living proof of what most doctors believe about diabetes: they do not control it, the patient does. Abigail has a matter-of-fact approach to her condition, which she has had since she was 11 months old. "The best thing about it is that I can eat biscuits during class," she says. In order that Abigail and thousands like her stay fit and active, one of the country's leading experts on diabetes, Professor Peter Sonksen, of St Thomas's Hospital, London, is developing an information technology package that will allow all GPs to tap into a programme that gives individual details of each patient, and applies the latest specialist

knowledge on diabetes to their case. If the problem is particularly complicated, the computer will tell the GP to refer the case to a specialist.

The scheme, being piloted in three inner-London GP surgeries, follows an out-of-court settlement by East Berkshire Health Authority, who paid damages of £225,000 to a diabetic woman for whom the checks and balances in the system had failed. She became blind as a result of a condition known as retinopathy, a dangerous side-effect of diabetes, and the most important cause of blindness in people under the age of 65 in Britain. In this condition, abnormal blood vessels, which are fragile and bleed easily, grow on the retinal surface. Diabetes is also one of the commonest causes of kidney failure, and the need for amputation. But good control and regular medical check-ups can help prevent such problems.

No one knows why so many young people are developing diabetes — it has doubled in the past 15 years. One known factor, however, is that the improved control of diabetes has resulted in more families of their own. There is a strong but poorly understood genetic component in the disease, which means it is being passed on from generation to generation.

The progress in the treatment of diabetes — which affects one in 75 people in Britain — has not come from dramatic breakthroughs. It has derived more from the application of a growing body of knowledge. The disease takes two forms, the juvenile insulin-dependent type and

'There are simply too many diabetics for them all to be handled by hospitals'

late-onset diabetes, which occurs from the forties onwards and can usually be controlled by diet and drugs.

Traditionally, GPs have dealt with most late-onset diabetics, while sending cases such as Abigail's to hospitals. St Thomas's runs one of the country's leading centres for 3,000 diabetic outpatients. In a single visit, they can have their eyes screened for retinopathy; see a specialist nurse; be counselled on diet by a dietician and have a test, known as haemoglobin A1c, which indicates to the doctor, within ten minutes, how good their metabolic control has been for the

past two months. This means that, in many cases, potential problems can be headed off before they become serious.

There is also a chiropodist who teaches foot care. One common and serious side-effect of poor diabetic control is neuropathy, a form of nerve damage which causes numbness and lack of sensation. This means that something as simple as a severely ingrown toenail can become a serious infection without patients knowing it, because they feel no pain. As a result, diabetics are 25 times more likely to have to have a leg amputated than anyone else.

The development of such centres comes at a time when the resources for health care appear to be more limited. There are 750,000 known diabetics in this country. Almost 200,000 of them have the juvenile form of the disease, which increases the likelihood of complications mainly because there is a lifetime for these to set in. "There are simply too many diabetics for them all to be handled by hospitals," Professor Sonksen says.

Felicity George, Abigail's mother, travels with her daughter from their home in Farnham, Surrey, for hospital checks three times a year. Her son, Richard, 16, is also a diabetic.

Professor Sonksen hopes that his computer package — together with the government's new proposals to pay

GPs, from this July, for special services for long-term ailments such as diabetes — will change all that. Dr Raymond Pietroni, one of the three London GPs taking part in the pilot project, believes that in some cases GPs would be better than hospitals at persuading patients and their families to take day-to-day care of their condition.

"A patient's compliance is based on having a good relationship with a doctor," says Dr Pietroni. "That is far more likely if that doctor is the GP than if the patient has to go to hospital, then wait for two hours to be seen by a different person in a white coat at every visit."

But like many GPs, he is concerned that the financial rewards for providing a specialist service for diabetics should be reasonable, and stresses that otherwise the system will not work. Professor Sonksen argues that with regular annual check-ups at specialist centres, backed up by GP care, there is no reason why diabetics such as Abigail should not have a successful career, a family and a normal life.

Like many of the proposals emerging in the restructured NHS, only time will tell whether the bid to shift the treatment of more long-term ailments over to GPs will improve conditions. There is little doubt that, under the reforms, the dramatic acute diseases will continue to be well served. But it is the treatment of long-term, less glamorous disorders such as diabetes that will determine whether or not Britain still has a truly national health service.

AILEEN BALLANTYNE

The fine art of parenting

Families with an anti-social child can get help, says Dr James Le Fanu

In 1991, Andrew Webber, was a fairly average three-year-old. "He had his tantrums of course," said his parents, Clive and Amanda, "and he's always been a bit of a tearaway, but he was good company." Two years later, they were at the end of their tether. At school, Andrew bullied other children, bit teachers, overturned desks, and became so disruptive that the other parents organised a petition to get him removed. The Webbers withdrew him voluntarily, but he lasted only three days at the next school.

At home, he would start the day by jumping up and down on his sister's head and torturing his pet animals. No trip to the shops was complete without a temper tantrum, and none of the few friends the Webbers had left would agree to babysit.

Then they were put in touch with Dr Stephen Wolkind, consultant psychiatrist in charge of the children's unit at the Maudsley Hospital in south London. As we see in a television documentary tomorrow night, in six intensive sessions of behaviour therapy Andrew became a normal child once again. The difference is so remarkable that Mrs Webber can only say she is "gobsmacked".

The underlying principle of behaviour therapy is that children's anti-social behaviour in the form of conduct disorders, aggressiveness, and delinquency, is not that different from normal behaviour in its development and persistence. It emerges as a consequence of failing to learn successful ways of coping or by acquiring "deviant strategies".

Here the role of parents as the main agents of socialisation is crucial. In Andrew's case, according to Dr Wolkind, his parents became trapped in a vicious circle, where, out of exasperation, their responses to his behaviour were inconsistent and unsympathetic, which then became the cue for it to be repeated. Mr and Mrs Webber are not, he emphasises, "bad" parents; rather, like many others, they need active help to restore their faith in their ability to be "good" parents.

Behaviour therapy arose in response to the dismal legacy of child psychoanalysis of the 1940s and 1950s, which sought to explain conduct disorders in the arcane terminology of "good breast/bad breast", or "anal retention". Not only was most of this patient's life saved by the use of cannabis, but it was also legalised for all uses by adults, rather than trying to get it licensed as a drug."

ent nonsense, but it provided no therapeutic means by which a child's behaviour could be changed. The behaviourist approach is more empirical. In the words of Martin Herbert, the professor of psychology, Leicester University: "We minimise speculation about cause based on inference. The therapeutic task is to remedy the problem by direct intervention."

The principles of positive and negative reinforcement gleaned from observing rats in cages are applied to children. Behaviourism, though much criticised in the early years for only treating the symptoms, has a considerable advantage over psychoanalysis in getting results. Over the years, a whole series of techniques has evolved which all seek in one way or another to reward good and discourage bad behaviour.

The Maudsley programme is based on an American method — "the parent/child game" — which takes this insight a step further. Separately, first Mrs Webber, then her husband play with Andrew in a room while being observed through a two-way mirror. Each parent has an earpiece, and is given minute instructions on what to do and say. "Don't ask him questions. Describe what he's doing. Comment positively on what he's doing now. That's good, well done."

The purpose is to shift the parents from being "child-directive" — critical, questioning, and demanding to being "child-centred", when they comment on and praise what he is doing. At the start of therapy, the ratio of these responses is 6-1 in favour of "child directive"; by the end, it is reversed. Misdemeanours are punished forcefully, but consistently. Simple and straightforward as this may sound, it is highly effective, providing certain proof, if it were needed, of how influential good parenting is in child development.

Dr Wolkind believes that much teenage delinquent behaviour can be traced back to conduct disorders such as that of Andrew, so it is theoretically preventable by the sort of programme his team has devised. The message should therefore be positive and upbeat but in fact is rather depressing. If commendable parents like the Webbers need specialist help, what hope can there be for the millions of children from broken or in single-parent households?

● Q&A, BBC1 tomorrow, 9.35pm.

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Lynne Truss



Beware the one-eyed fiend, and do not succumb to the buzz of flies on the wall

Noel Coward once said that television was not for watching, it was for appearing on. No doubt this sounded rather witty and oblique when he said it; but today, unfortunately, it is not. It just goes to show how sometimes yesterday's cresset of an epigram is today's Ambrosia low-fat rice-pudding of a truism. "Television is for appearing on" — well of course it is. Not only do people now clamour to appear on television; they are beginning to believe it's a democratic right. Good grief, I myself have been campaigning to get a chat show for my cat Paddy since 1987, just because she looks great on a sofa.

The trouble with this universal ambition, in my opinion, is not that it bespeaks moral collapse (although it might); it's that it makes life so easy for programme-makers they feel no need to respect the people they film. Camera-fodder wannabes are a dime a dozen, and so are treated as such. When the BBC advertised in Australia for a family to feature in a fly-on-the-wall documentary series (ending up as BBC's *Sylvania Waters*), 100 families applied. This made the winners — Noeline Donaher and her family — think themselves lucky, which was their first mistake. Still, one of the great side-effects of the series was surely the way it brought each of the other 99 families together, as every week they communally burst into tears and offered up thanks for their deliverance.

Personally, I often tell people that I don't want to appear on television, but they never believe me. It sounds too peculiar; either it's an affectation (sour grapes) or a really hideous hypocrisy, smacking of Richard III saying "Crown, what crown? Be off with you, I'm praying." I have good, solid reasons for my reticence, however. Partly I just know I would be hopeless (I get tongue-tied by any direct question more difficult than "What is the name of your cat Paddy?"), but also I grow ever more alarmed at the way real people are turned inside-out for entertainment value, whether they like it or not.

Lost my sense of humour, have I? Well, possibly. But I currently feel so anxious about *Sylvania Waters* that I can't help it. How cunning they were, to name the genre "fly-on-the-wall". "Nobody here but us flies," says the camera team innocently, waving their arms to prove it. "You carry on, that was really good what you were doing." Are there any codes of practice governing this? Is there any protection? No, people sign the release forms, and that's it. Shooting fish in a barrel.

As a result of all this, on Thursday an amazing Belgian "fly-on-the-wall" film called *Lovers on Trial* is shown on Channel 4. I saw it at last year's Prix Italia, where it rightly won a prize, amid much discussion as to its ethics. I have seen it three times now, and it has changed quite radically with each viewing, because initially the extraordinary power of the story (wife and lover on trial for murder of husband; each telling contradictory lies for confused motives; each confiding a version of events to the camera between court sessions) so gripped me that I didn't notice how, quite blatantly, the shots had been set up, the camera repositioned for a scene to be shot again — how the "reality" had been directed for television. "That's a dangerous film," someone said to me after the first viewing, and in my shocked state I misunderstood. I thought she meant it was dangerous because the wife emerged as a manipulating schemer, of the sort normally played by Barbara Stanwyck.

But I can see the danger now, just as I can see the terrible pity. After all, having gone to all the trouble of acting out stuff for the camera, these people got sent down for hard labour, at which point the camera team presumably remembered an appointment elsewhere ("Stupid of us! Bye!") and legged it with a prize-winning film in their pockets. Compared to this, the *Sylvania Waters* trauma of humiliation was a hay-ride to a beach-party, but it shows how things could go. The Donahers were dumped; when the episodes were screened, they looked around and they were on their own. So, what is the lesson? Well, for starters, that if anyone ever offers a serial to your cat Paddy, you should think jolly hard before saying "Great, what a privilege. And did I mention that she works for Kit-bits?"



By God and my peers

One need only listen to judges' prejudices to see why the innocent prefer the protection of Ethelred and his 12 thegns

I bet you didn't know that in 1000 AD or thereabouts, Ethelred the Unready (incidentally, what was it that he was unready for?) declared that in the remotest of every wintertime the reeve and the 12 senior thegns should go out and present, on oath, all whom they believed to have committed any crime.

And I hope it stayed fine for them. But gemots, wapentakes, reeves and thegns notwithstanding, the king's ukase signalled a day most fitting for a millennium, because that ancient ceremony marked, as it took root and grew over the centuries, one of the very greatest of our liberties, the right, if we are accused of breaking the law, to be tried by a judge and jury.

That right is now under threat, as it has been again and again over the years: this time the threat comes from the Director of Public Prosecutions, Mrs Barbara Mills, whose arguments were so easily riddled in these pages by Mr Geoffrey Bindman, that sturdy warrior in the defence of our precious rights, that I rather think she is not quite up to the job. Anyway, by now practically everybody else has had a say, so I propose to have mine.

Mr Bindman, as an expert lawyer, naturally made the legal case against the theft of our invaluable protection, the jury. I, as a layman, shall now make the layman's case for the defendant: the case, that is, for a defendant who wants to put his honour, his innocence and his future into the hands of a jury, and, when asked, in the echoing, ancient words how does he wish to be tried, has the right to answer "By God and my peers".

Already, I hear a snort, coming from the bench. If the innocent are happy to put themselves into the hands of a jury because they believe a jury is more likely to acquit, why, then, do the guilty too demand a jury, if not that a jury can be more easily hornswoggled? Very possibly; but it is very much more important that the innocent should go free than that the guilty should not.

It is true that what has been put forward is not a plan to abolish the jury from our judicial system; it is to take from us the right to choose a trial by jury. In certain circumstances a jury would be allowed, and in others it would be denied. But don't be fooled: oh, don't, don't, don't be fooled! The moment this infamous proposal is enacted, the campaign, fortified by getting a foot on the ladder, will start the movement to abolish the jury altogether; the house-

maid's baby was scandalous enough, but it became even more embarrassing as it grew up.

It is fascinating to follow the attempts to undermine and ultimately abolish the jury, which is the only remaining part of our judicial system that is entrusted to lay hands. That very singularly has for centuries been a powerful irritant beneath the skin of the judges, and you can see them scratching themselves till they bleed, as they face that great impertinence. Many years ago, I sat through the whole of the prosecution of *Penguin Books* for publishing *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, the case that was the undoing of

the land with no reputation to be damaged — a most worthy and sensible move, worthily and sensibly carried out by the judges — it did not need specially-tuned antennae to pick up the burn of the judges' longing for the power to take away the juries' adjudication altogether.

Yes, juries are fallible and can get it wrong, but if you don't think it too rude of me, I must say that a bench consisting of milords Lane, Donaldson and Bridge would be quite certain to get it wrong. But all this is in the negative, the case against dispensing with the jury; I must now move into the affirmative, the case for keeping it.

The very item that sticks in the craw of the abolitionists, the man or woman who knows nothing about the intricacies of the law but knows something about human beings, is the very bones of our argument. Throughout the world of the law, be it the judges or the pleaders or the stenographers or the ushers, they are trained in a strange but real impartiality. Every barrister in the land has been asked, a hundred times, the simplest question: "How can you defend a man when you think he is guilty?" It is the glory of our system that he can and does, but only at the cost of seeing the man in the dock or the witness-box not as a human being, but as an object, indistinguishable from the last object and the next. Do you know Chesterton's marvellous defence of the jury system? I wish I had space to print it in full, but here is a bit of it, when he was himself on a jury:

All the time... there was in the heart a barbaric pity and fear which... is the power behind half the poems of the world... Never had I stood so close to pain; and never so far away from pessimism. Ordinarily, I should not have spoken of these dark emotions at all, for speech about them is too difficult; but I mention them now for a specific and particular reason... I speak of these feelings because out of the furnace of them there came a curious realization of a political or social truth. I saw with a queer and indescribable kind of clearness what a jury really is, and why we must never let it go.

Our civilization has decided... that determining the guilt or innocence of men is too important to be trusted to trained men... When it wants a library catalogue, or the solar system discovered, it uses up its specialists. But when it wishes anything done that is really serious, it collects twelve of the ordinary men standing round. The same thing was done, if I remember right, by the Founder of Christianity.

The abolitionists argue that time and money are wasted by transgressors who elect for a jury trial, and then plead guilty. It is a bad thing to waste time and money, but it is a very much worse thing to waste justice. The dreadful miscarriages of justice that have come to light in the last few years were all, of course, tried with juries. Well, there is no certainty of a correct verdict with or without a jury, but what sticks in my mind is the picture of appalling certainty displayed by the judges in the appeal courts, when the men and women who were later to be proved innocent after years of wrongful imprisonment came up for their last chance. I shall mercifully not name the judge who said that the more the appellant's case went on, the more he was convinced that the conviction was safe; but when many wicked years had followed, and the innocence of that appellant was at last established, not even the briefest apology escaped that judge's mouth.

But I bring back these terrible echoes for a reason: so far from abolishing the jury, it would be a great step for justice if, in the appeal courts, including the highest ones, a lay element were to be added. It would not be difficult to arrange, though the sound of judges' bustling with outrage and self-esteem would deafen the land. Let Chesterton have the last word, as he said in the jury-box:

... it is a terrible business to mark a man out for the vengeance of men. But it is a thing to which a man can grow accustomed, as he can to other terrible things: he can even grow accustomed to the sun. And the horrible thing about all legal officials, even the best... is simply that they have got used to it... Therefore... there shall upon every occasion be infused fresh blood and fresh thoughts from the streets. Men shall come in, who can see the court and the crowd... and see it all as one sees a new picture or a play hitherto unvisited.

Our civilization has decided... that determining the guilt or innocence of men is too important to be trusted to trained men... When it wants a library catalogue, or the solar system discovered, it uses up its specialists. But when it wishes anything done that is really serious, it collects twelve of the ordinary men standing round. The same thing was done, if I remember right, by the Founder of Christianity.

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Keeping Britain great

Banish defeatism, get on with the job, says

Woodrow Wyatt

Possibly it was the pre-war Oxford Union resolution not to fight for king and country that finally convinced Hitler that Britain would be no bar to his territorial ambitions. There has always been a strong strand of defeatism in the British character. It seems that only Churchill and a few supporters, apart from the youth of all ranks in the services, genuinely believed Britain could not be beaten in 1940.

And here we are again: Empire gone, also-rans in the industrial revolution we began; our industry and commerce in unstoppable decline; about to be subordinated to Germany and France through Maastricht. This time the fainthearts, with their manipulation of mass communications, make inroads — but not too many I hope — into the superb, irrational conviction that has sustained us in adversity for centuries: that Britain will always be great. Business failures are magnified, but if businesses return to health, as many do, this is deliberately neglected, as Martyn Lewis points out.

Looking from the outside, Bill Rubinstein, professor of economic history at Deakin University, Australia, demonstrates in his new book, *Capitalism, Culture and Decline in Britain*, that we are far from decline and that the mid-Victorian manufacturing boom was an exception. Our success has always rested upon commerce and finance, in which London is still the world's third largest player. This is why Heathrow handles more international passengers a year than any other airport. Our professions lead the world: the maligned public schools, wrongly blamed for a rigid class structure which they long ago shed, are paragons of adaptability, supplying the most successful ingredients of our commercial success.

When we are among the first to emerge from the world recession, our native detractors refuse to believe it. Last week's convention of the Institute of Directors might have been held on the moon. Sir Alistair Grant is chairman of Argyll. In a rising stock-market, his company's shares have fallen by 20 per cent since last year. Naturally, he blamed the lull in the government's eye, not the beam in his own.

There were the usual mindless attacks on Messrs Major and Labour, most for grasping instant nostrums which, applied at the wrong moment, would have made the illness longer and worse. Irascible critics have not noticed that the radical restructuring of industry, fought for by Mrs Thatcher, has vastly improved management, per capita output and exports. Thanks to her, British finance, commerce and industry, though shaken by the recession, have never been leaner and fitter. Hence the surge in our car production, now fast overtaking battered Germany's.

"Made in Britain" has again become the superlative trademark for British goods. These will penetrate even the recession-ridden EC, as well as Japan and America. Meanwhile huge new markets emerge in booming China, large parts of Asia and South America.

During their rocky ride, Messrs Major and Lamont doubtless made the odd mistake in steering, which they quickly corrected on their journey to the nearest British growth this century. Tough businessmen heading top companies and growing smaller ones know it is now up to them to grab the dazzling opportunities, and that whingeing is for faltering fools. Confidence should be fostered, not sneered at.

My plea is to remember that trade follows the flag and that the flag is dipping as our armed forces are stripped of their ability to cope with emergencies impinging on our direct interests. Their fighting strength must return to that of the 1970s. Ministers should also avoid responding to ill-judged fashionable cries for change by wrecking institutions which have served us well. And, believing in the nourishing virtues of a free, flexible market, they should end the capital gains tax which hobbles it.

Cecil's crusade

CAN Lord Parkinson keep his powder dry until the Newbury by-election is over? The government is getting twitchy about his anti-Maastricht leanings, and fears that he may damage the campaign with a public show of support for his old chums Lord Tebbit and Baroness Thatcher.

As a founding member of Conservative Way Forward, a pressure group which keeps alive the ideals of Margaret Thatcher, there can be little doubt as to where his sympathies lie. But pin-striped Parkinson has been notable for his reluctance so far to return to the political fray. His return is said to be imminent, even though the urbane peer has now resumed a successful career in the City. Close friends claim that Parkinson, the consummate politician, still misses the cut and thrust of his day in the cabinet.

Pro-Maastricht campaigners at least take comfort that he has yet to make his maiden speech in the Lords, and that he plans not to ruffle

any feathers with his debut (unlike the late Lord Ridley, who defied convention by hitting out at Maastricht).

But with his maiden out of the way, Parkinson will doubtless be tempted to speak out on Europe, a prospect that excites the rebels. "We want Cecil on board," says Bill Cash, Tory MP for Stafford. "His Conservative Way Forward group is consistent with our position on Europe." Parkinson would tend to agree — but only in private for the time being.

● Critics of the York Theatre Royal, which has just received a £100,000 grant from the Foundation for Sport and the Arts, should bear the following in mind. The cash will be "largely earmarked for the rewiring of the auditorium seating", local newspapers were told last week. Its plays must really fizz with excitement.

Guns 'n' ermine

VIOLENCE here may have reached record levels, but at

least we have not yet been forced down the road of Oklahoma's House of Representatives, which has just told judges to take revolvers into the courtroom. "I've seen a lot of courtrooms, and it's not uncommon to me to see judges take off those robes and show their shoulder holsters," says Paul Banner, of the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy.

Thankfully, Britain is a far cry from these measures of desperation, says James Pickles, the former circuit judge who never felt that bullets were needed in his court. "I think judges would be better equipped with bulletproof screens



DIARY

rather than revolvers," he says. "After all, they are not trained shots, and they could end up shooting innocent people."

Shirley's crusade

THEY MAY not chain themselves to the railings in support of the vote. But a British-style suffragette movement is heading defiantly for the newly-formed democracies of Eastern Europe. Shirley Williams, the co-founder of the Gang of Four, has handed down the marching orders for a crusade to get more women MPs behind the former Iron Curtain. Baroness Williams will take up the banner of Project Liberty later this year when she returns from Harvard University. Meanwhile, she has asked Lesley Abdela, a founder member of the 300 Group, which is devoted to bringing

more women MPs to Westminster, to help co-ordinate the project.

"It's simple. We are trying to encourage women to take an active role in business and in the political make-up of the newly-formed democracies," says Abdela. "Lady Williams is our mother superior."

Out of tune

FOLLOWING last week's note that Jacques Attali is to lecture to the Cambridge music faculty this Thursday, it appears that there will be one notable absentee. Emeritus professor of music Robin Orr has decided not to attend the lecture which bears his name because of the speaker. Friends say Orr has read too much about Attali's luxurious bank and recalls how, by contrast, he struggled desperately

to raise finance for new buildings at the faculty. "He was allowed no frills, not even a simple bar at the concert hall," says a close friend. Attali is unlikely to be drinking champagne that evening.

Hoarded treasure

LONDON'S Albert Memorial, shrouded in scaffolding seemingly for ever, may be plain for all to see this summer. Although the Department of National Heritage is no closer to raising the £10 million needed for its repairs, civil servants have discovered a cheaper option. They are thinking of painting murals of Albert on the hoarding which surrounds it.

A series of pictures around Queen Victoria's monument to her husband in Kensington Gardens would extricate the government from a tricky spot, so the thinking goes. The murals could be funded privately through sponsorship; they would show at least some progress on a piece of heritage which has been under scaffolding for two years, and it would show tourists what they are missing. That's government heritage policy for you.



Du Maurier: te-tum-te-tum versifier mistaken for a poet

Whose lines are they anyway?

Daphne du Maurier was never much acclaimed as a poet. So eyebrows were raised when a powerful, untitled love poem was attributed to her in *Daphne du Maurier*, a best-selling biography of the late novelist. Now the doubters have been proved correct: the poem was not by du Maurier.

The embarrassed biographer, Margaret Forster, is suitably contrite: "I ought to

have spotted that it was too good for Daphne. Her poetry was very 'te-tum-te-tum'. I just thought this was one she had managed to pull off."

The real poet is Lady Gaie Vickers, wife of a former quarry to the Queen, Sir Richard Vickers. "I sent the poem to Daphne for her comments," she says, "which were not, as I remember, particularly constructive."

forthcoming marriages

J. Anson
S.M. Dalgarno
 Marriage of Roderick, son of Mr Malcolm Anson and of Mrs Joan Anson, of 10, New Deer, will take place in King's College, Aberdeen.

Brodie
S.M. Brodie
 Marriage of Alexander, younger son of Mr Brodie, QC, and Mrs S. Brodie, of 10, New Deer, will take place in King's College, Aberdeen.

L.M.T. Brooks
R.A. S.V.S. Allford
 Marriage of Keith, youngest son of Mr Brooks and of Mrs Nancy of Exeter, Surrey, and youngest daughter of the late Colonel John Allford, will take place in King's College, Aberdeen.

Jarke
J.C. Waterlow
 Marriage of David, son of Mr and Mrs Jarke, of 10, New Deer, will take place in King's College, Aberdeen.

Harcourt Cozoe
Hon T.R. Coleridge
 Marriage of William George, son of Mr Harcourt Cozoe, of 10, New Deer, will take place in King's College, Aberdeen.

G. Peel
R.J. Palmer
 Marriage of Edward, son of Mr and Mrs Peel, of 10, New Deer, will take place in King's College, Aberdeen.

P. Roberts
C.S.L. Stewart
 Marriage of Michael Paul, son of Mr and Mrs Roberts, of 10, New Deer, will take place in King's College, Aberdeen.

riages
Hambury-Tenison
 Marriage of Robert, son of Mr and Mrs Hambury-Tenison, of 10, New Deer, will take place in King's College, Aberdeen.

E.E. Housley
S.E. Falcongreen
 Marriage of Robert, son of Mr and Mrs Housley, of 10, New Deer, will take place in King's College, Aberdeen.

riages
Hambury-Tenison
 Marriage of Robert, son of Mr and Mrs Hambury-Tenison, of 10, New Deer, will take place in King's College, Aberdeen.

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OBITUARIES

Ronald Gow, dramatist and husband of Dame Wendy Hiller, died on April 27 aged 95. He was born in Heaton Moor, Manchester, on November 1, 1897.

WHEN *Love on the Dole*, Ronald Gow's adaptation of Walter Greenwood's novel, was first staged in 1934, it was one of the first public outings for the young actress Wendy Hiller. Hiller went on to appear in many other Gow productions, including *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* and *The Edwardians*.

Her presence later on doubtless helped Gow's box-office takings, but Hiller was herself immensely grateful to him for that first opportunity. Originally he had thought her too inexperienced to play the role of Sally Hardcastle but, having searched around, he could find no one else young enough who could manage the Lancastrian accent. The couple later married.

Her success meant that the play's run of one week at the Manchester Gaiety Theatre was extended to three, before it went on a seven-month tour of Lancashire and Yorkshire mining towns, playing to an audience of "clogs and shawls", Hiller recalled, twice a night. It later transferred to the West End and New York.

George Bernard Shaw saw Hiller in the original production, and was so impressed that he insisted she play his Eliza Doolittle in a production of *Pygmalion* being staged at the Malvern Festival in 1936. With his patronage, Wendy Hiller was launched. Both she and Gow carried on a correspondence with Shaw over many years.

Love on the Dole portrayed a Salford family hit by the 1930s recession and steadily disintegrating as the slump gets worse. To begin with, the Hardcastles are a self-respecting family with a father who is very much the master in his own house. By the end of the play the man is a wreck, abandoned by his children and with his marriage in tatters. The heroine, Sally Hardcastle, is eventually driven by hopeless poverty into the arms of the local bookmaker.

Over the years, the play lost much

of its original bite. The figure of Larry, the golden-hearted agitator, and the pathetic circumstances of his death look particularly dated. But it still has the power to evoke a sentimental reaction from playgoers of an older generation, and has been occasionally revived in the West End. In 1941 it was made into a film, starring Deborah Kerr. (Wendy Hiller was offered the part but turned the part down.)

Ronald Gow was educated at Aldinham Grammar School and at Manchester University, before pursuing an apparently conventional career as a research chemist and later a schoolmaster.

His passion for the stage, however, dominated his free time. Gow's parents had known several of the Manchester School dramatists in what was, at the turn of the century, a particularly fertile moment for northern drama. Although never inclined to act himself, Gow haunted Manchester's Garrick Theatre from a young age, making himself useful as a stage-hand and box-office assistant. The County High School for Boys, Altrincham, where Gow taught, became, with its ready cast, the scene of his numerous theatrical experiments. In 1928 he and the boys made *The Man who Changed his Mind*, a silent film for the Boy Scout and Girl Guide movements.

Gow's first professional success came with *Gallows Glorious* in 1933. The subject of the play, the slave liberator John Brown, was portrayed as an iron-minded, if attractive, fanatic. The play opened at Croydon Rep and later transferred to the Shaftesbury.

However, the warm notices it received from the critics were not matched by ticket receipts and the play closed in the West End after two weeks. Gow determined to steer clear of historical pieces after this and to tackle a contemporary theme in his next play. With three million out of work, he was struck by the timeliness of adapting Walter Greenwood's novel, *Love on the Dole*.

The play's success allowed Gow to become a full-time writer, and to encourage Wendy Hiller, whom he married in 1937, in her blossoming career. The couple started life in a flat

RONALD GOW



Gow with his wife of 56 years, Dame Wendy Hiller

in Gower Street but Gow was always prepared to travel with his wife, particularly on those rare occasions when she was filming in Hollywood. During the second world war he worked for the BBC. Afterwards he

produced two more successful vehicles for his wife, *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* (1946) and *Ann Veronica* (1949). Hiller considered these plays, both, like *Love on the Dole*, adaptations, as providing her with

two of the best parts of her career. Critics were not always as impressed by Gow's later pieces. *Jenny Jones*, produced at the London Hippodrome in 1944, was an adaptation of a series of stories of Welsh village life by Rhys Davies. *The Times* decided that the general impression was "of a brass band which has slipped out of the conductor's control, each instrumentalist playing a different tune".

Other plays included *The Full Treatment* (1959) co-written with Robert Morley, a mixture of farce and sophisticated comedy which bore the air of a protracted revue sketch, and *A Boston Story* (1966), based on Henry James's first novel, *Watch and Ward*, which starred a young Nicola Paget in its London run.

Whatever his dramatic limitations — he certainly had little claim to be considered an original playwright — Gow was always careful about period detail. In 1959 he advertised in the national press for news-vendors of the 1910 period. They were to shoot "special edition" offstage in an adaptation of *Via Sackville-West's The Edwardians*. The vintage article, Gow considered, was more of an artist's voice "full of terror and adoration".

Gow carried on writing in later years, but never produced another hit. His many other plays, either originals or adaptations, included *Ma's Bit o' Brass*, a regular stand-by of northern repertory companies, and *The Old Jest* in which his wife starred as late as 1980.

He and Dame Wendy Hiller, as she became in 1975, enjoyed a long and famously happy marriage, untouched by any professional jealousy. Interviews were likely to come up against a brick wall when questioning Hiller on her absences from theatrical parties, or her reluctance to join a company. "I'm too fond of getting back to my home in Beaconsfield and to Ronald."

His memory, despite being 14 years older, was always sharper than hers, and she liked to keep him nearby when being interviewed by journalists in later years. In order to fill in the gaps.

She survives him, together with their son and daughter.

IAN SCOTT-HILL

Ian Scott-Hill, OBE, a pioneer of British air transport, died in London on April 29 aged 77. He was born on August 6, 1915.

IAN Scott-Hill was one of the small, élite, band of Imperial Airways trainees of the 1930s, most of whom continued actively at the centre of British air transport throughout the next half-century.

Born in Stanmore, Middlesex, the son of a naval officer, Scott-Hill was educated at Clifton College and at the Choate School in the United States. He joined Imperial Airways at Croydon Airport in 1933 as a commercial trainee in company with others who were to make names for themselves in the air transport business. Among them were Sir Keith Granville, Sir Ross Stainton, John Brancard, Edwin Whitfield, Max Stewart Shaw and Richard Hillary.

These hand-picked young men, under Imperial Airways' general manager, George Woods Humphrey, were dispatched to the outposts of the then British Empire as area managers and as youthful ambassadors for the 90 mph land planes and flying-boats which were bringing Africa, India and even Australia closer to the homeland than ever before.

Young Scott-Hill found himself in the forefront of all this. During the next six years he was successively in Brussels, Cairo and Khartoum before he was posted as station superintendent in Juba, followed by similar postings to Nairobi, Kampala and Kisumu. When BOAC succeeded Imperial Airways in 1940, Scott-Hill was sent on a flying-boat survey of the Congo River for a trans-Africa supply route.

During this work, Scott-Hill renewed an earlier acquaintance with Colonel Cartier,

commandant of the French Air Force in Brazzaville and, through him with Colonel de Larminat of the Free French contingent. With them he worked out on board the Empire flying-boat "Clyde", a coup d'état to bring over to the Allied cause the French colony in equatorial Africa thus securing the trans-African air route to be operated for the war effort by BOAC and Pan American Airways in conjunction. Scott-Hill's next postings were to Lagos and, from 1942 to 1945, to Jerusalem.

When, with the end of the war, British European Airways was formed in February 1946, Scott-Hill became its first overseas manager in Belgium and Luxembourg, extending his parish in 1948 as BEA's area manager for London and all European air routes. In 1955, he was promoted general manager (traffic) and, in 1964, traffic director. During this time, as an enthusiastic private pilot and a leading member of the Royal Aero Club, he helped to found the BEA/BOAC Airways Aero Club, first at Donham and then at Croydon.

In the five years from 1967 Scott-Hill was in the centre of things as BEA's regional director for UK and Ireland, as a director of Channel Island Airways and — with the formation of British Airways in 1972 — as commercial director of its regional division. Finally, in 1976 and 1977, he was a director of British Airways subsidiary, Northeast Airlines.

In retirement, Scott-Hill became chairman of the British Airways museum collection and took a special interest in the preservation of historic aircraft, in association with the Royal Air Force museum's collection at Cosford.

He married in 1938 Jean Walker who survives him together with their son.

PROFESSOR D. W. HARDING



Denys Wyatt Harding, psychologist and literary critic, died on April 17 aged 66. He was born in Lowestoft, Suffolk, on July 13, 1906.

D. W. HARDING, one of the most distinguished and humane — if somewhat understated — literary critics of his time, was a psychologist by profession. Initially, he rather suffered under the label of "Leavisite", a term too often used derogatively, just because his earliest essays appeared in F. R. Leavis's influential *Scrutiny* (of which he was for some years a member of the editorial board). In fact, although Harding initially shared many of Leavis's concerns, he eventually drifted away from him and made his own very distinctive contribution to letters by applying his psychological expertise to them.

He was educated at Lowestoft Secondary School and then at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where he obtained firsts in both English and Psychology. Apart from a period during the war, when he worked for the Ministry of Information in London, his entire professional career was spent in psychology.

Not only did he for 23 years occupy the chair of psychology at Bedford College, London — he was also from 1948 to 1954 the editor of *The British Journal of Psychology*. If he is likely primarily to be remembered as a literary critic, he was also a psychologist of more than average competence.

Yet in his professional field, as in his reputation as a critic, he probably inclined to be underrated. Quaintly, he was regarded as being "too interested in people" — a reflection probably of his admiration for the humane Morris Ginsberg, whose influence, alone with

that of Ian Suttie, can be detected in his writings within his own discipline. From 1928 until 1933 Harding was an investigator and member of the research staff of the National Institute of Industrial Psychology. In 1933 he became an assistant lecturer, later a lecturer, in social psychology at the London School of Economics.

From the beginning of his academic career he was happier with research students in a seminar rather than on a podium in a lecture room. His quiet voice and unassuming manner were better suited to expounding the subject under discussion than to any public display of his own personality.

It was in September 1933 that he made the first of his contributions to *Scrutiny*, with an essay on I. A. Richards. His next contribution to Leavis's magazine, in 1935, gave the first — it is still the best — critical account of the persistently neglected but deeply interesting novelist L. H. Myers, author of the tetralogy *The Near and the Far*. Harding's acute, sensitive and ground-breaking 1940 essay about Jane Austen, "Regulated Hatred: An Aspect of the Work of Jane Austen", remains one of the most unusual and fruitful assessments of Austen, and could hardly be passed over by any serious critic of her work.

From the Liverpool and Manchester before his appointment in 1945, at the age of 39, as the first Professor of Psychology at Bedford College, London. He retired, with the title of emeritus professor, in 1968. As a psychologist, he wrote two still quite important, and certainly insightful, books: *The Impulse to Dominate* (1941), whose stocks were lost in an air raid and which was never reprinted.

and *Social Psychology and Individual Values* (1953), which he revised in 1966.

His edition of the major first world war poet Isaac Rosenberg — undertaken with the poet Gordon Bottomley — although now superseded, was the first to be published. It laid the foundation for the definitive text. *The Complete Works of Rosenberg* appeared in 1937, and *The Collected Poems* (also with Bottomley) followed in 1949.

As a literary critic, Harding contributed greatly to what would now be called "Reader-response" theory. He was among the earliest of modern critics to study, in some depth, the psychology of reading itself — a study which he was singularly well equipped to undertake. In his *Experience Into Words: Essays on Poetry* (1963) he argued that writers took profound satisfaction in expressing their (conscious) "intentions": it was this satisfaction, indeed pleasure, upon which he laid emphasis.

In turn, he went on to argue, the reader, however, though vicariously in this creative satisfaction and pleasure of the author. In a famous example, he suggested that if we learnt that Shakespeare never wrote (of the dying Falstaff) that "his nose was sharp as a pen, and a babble of green fields" (and, alas, he probably did not) then, it "would be a disappointment", and although the "phrase would still be there, as fine as ever" we should lose "the shared satisfaction" in it.

He suggested numerous subtle ways in which an author could lead his reader, and vice versa. Of Blake's famous obscurity, he claimed that it came about (at least in part) because "he had no adequate 'reading public'". He wanted

to be understood, but not at the cost of trimming down his meaning to the assimilative capacity of conventional minds. Blake, he thought, was somewhat to be blamed for this. Harding's criticism is full of such precious insights.

In 1971-72 he gave the Clark Lectures at Cambridge: his *Words Into Rhythm: English Speech Rhythm in Verse and Prose* (1976) is based on them. This, again, is an invaluable discussion, in which Harding's psychological knowledge plays a large and vital part. Rhythm, he declared, does not "express", but is an integral part of, a poem or a piece of prose. This was by no means a new idea, but the demonstration of its truth is impressive.

Harding edited Austen's *Persuasion* for Penguin Books in 1965, and made two translations — with Eric Mesterton — of novels by the Nobel prize-winning Scandinavian novelist Pär Lagerkvist. He also contributed to successive volumes of Boris Ford's *Pelican Guide to English Literature*. A modest man who never sought to promote himself, and who published too little to exercise the influence he should have had, Harding was nevertheless a critic of real substance.

His reputation may well now be due to a revival of only a few weeks ago, writing in the *New York Review of Books*, Denis Donoghue declared that it would be a good idea to republish a selection of the good critics nowadays too often neglected, going on specifically to cite, among British writers, "G. Wilson Knight, A. C. Bradley and D. W. Harding for a start."

Harding married Jessie Muriel Ward in 1930. She died last year. There were no children.

Mick Ronson, guitarist and producer, died on April 30 aged 46. He was born in Hull, Yorkshire, on May 26, 1946.

MICK RONSON will be best remembered for his three-year stint as guitarist in David Bowie's band, the Spiders from Mars, during the most critical and influential period of the singer's career.

After receiving piano and violin lessons as a child, Ronson finally took up the guitar in his late teens. He played in various local bands, including The Cresters and The Rats, before falling in with fellow-northerner, Michael Chapman, a folk singer and peerless ragtime guitarist. Ronson's contributions to Chapman's album *Fully Qualified Survivor* (1969) combined masterful technique with a flair for the unusual.

He joined David Bowie's backing band, initially called Hype, in February 1970, making his debut at the Roundhouse in London's Camden Town. At that point, Bowie had enjoyed just one UK hit single — "Space Oddity", which reached No 5 in the charts in 1969. When the two parted company in 1973, Bowie was an international superstar.

In that short space of time, Ronson recorded five albums with Bowie: *The Man who Sold the World* (US 1970/UK 1971), *Hunky Dory* (1971), *The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars* (1972), *Aladdin Sane* (UK No 1 in 1973) and *Pink Flamingos* (UK No 1 in 1973).

Ziggy Stardust remains Bowie's greatest album. During his two-year career run it turned him and his Spiders from Mars band into the hottest ticket in rock; much of the glory inevitably rubbed off on Ronson, who also played piano and featured promi-



One of David Bowie's Spiders from Mars: Mick Ronson, second from right, lead guitarist with the rock band Mott the Hoople in 1974

nently as harmony vocalist on the album.

After Bowie broke up the band, Ronson recorded and released his solo debut *Slaughter on Tenth Avenue* in 1974. The album reached No 9 in the UK chart, but the accompanying tour was a disappointment, and it became clear that Ronson's skills as a singer and songwriter were not sufficient to sustain a solo career. His forte was as a sideman.

In September 1974 Ronson joined English glam-rock veterans Mott the Hoople, but his only recorded contribution to their work was a typically mercurial solo on "Saturday Gigs", the last single released by the group before it split up in December 1974.

Ronson then teamed up with Mott the Hoople's vocal-ist Ian Hunter, with whom he toured to promote his second, and last, solo album *Play*

Don't Worry (1975). In 1976, Ronson guested on Bob Dylan's *Hard Rain* album, and joined the touring party of Dylan's celebrated Rolling Thunder Revue. He subsequently played on, producing Roger McGuinn's *Cardiff Rose* (1976) and working with artists as diverse as Canadian rocker Philip Rambow and American avant-garde jazz singer Annane Pearson.

The last Ian Hunter/Mick Ronson album, *Yui Orta*, was released in 1988, and in February 1989, the duo performed at the Dominion in London. Looking remarkably unchanged, his blond feather-cut hair, topped a scrawny frame with a guitar strapped on a couple of notches too low for comfort, Ronson played with all the caustic excellence of old.

But then in August 1991, during recording sessions with Randy Van Warmer in

New York, Ronson was diagnosed as suffering from cancer. He returned to London where specialists confirmed that the disease had spread to his liver.

He packed as much work as his failing health would allow into his final months, producing Morrissey's acclaimed 1992 album, *Mezzanine*, and contributing guitar on David Bowie's No 1 album, *Black Tie White Noise*, which was released last month.

His last public performance was at the Freddie Mercury Tribute Concert at Wembley Stadium on April 20 last year where he was reunited with both Ian Hunter and David Bowie for an especially poignant rendition of the Mott the Hoople hit "All The Young Dudes".

He is survived by his wife, formerly David Bowie's hairdresser, Suzy Fussey, and their daughter.

THE KING IN PARIS

A Cordial Reception

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

If the Republic and the Protocol had had the ordering of the weather, they could not have selected climatic conditions more admirably adapted to the various important events which occupied King Edward yesterday almost without intermission from about 9 o'clock in the morning till late at night. Almost the entire route from the Embassy to the racefields began with a military review, was lined by a lively and good-humoured crowd, many of whom waded away the time with typical songs. The troops made a gallant show as the sun glistened on the helmets of the cuirassiers, on the lances and dancing pennons of the Dragoons, and on the more sober but eminently business-like and impressive turn-out of the artillery with the new French 75-millimetre field gun, which—in the opinion expressed to me by a military

ON THIS DAY

May 4 1903

The Entente Cordiale between Britain and France was a personal triumph for King Edward VII. In the words of a historian, R.C.K. Ensor, "it was a semi-hostile capital to which he went, and a most friendly one from which he returned."

authority—has given that arm of the defensive forces of the Republic the primacy of the world. While the cavalry and the Zouaves, with their easy swinging gait, were obviously the popular favourites, it was this new "Long Tom," in its demure grey Quaker garb, that absorbed the attention of the numerous foreign officers present. Had he been in his own capital the welcome accorded to the King could not have been warmer or more spontane-

ous. Cheer after cheer arose, and his Majesty responded incessantly by raising his right hand to his plumed Field-Marshal's hat. There was a very great crowd at the Hôtel de Ville, and all the way to the Embassy the route was lined with thousands of spectators. It was perfectly evident that the enthusiasm and the interest taken in the King's visit had immensely increased since the previous days, and that the French had determined to give a free rein to the gaiety and vivacity so characteristic of their race. To-day their pent-up enthusiasm was unloosed, and they shouted and waved their hats and handkerchiefs with what was described by one of their number as "une verve inimitable". The point to be emphasized about yesterday's welcome was that it came essentially from the people and from the humbler classes of society, who had not an opportunity on Friday of testifying in such large numbers to their respect and esteem for the Royal guest of France. Large numbers of the business houses kept yesterday as a holiday...

Harding regularly wrote for Leavis's *Scrutiny*

NEWS

US set to send troops to Bosnia

President Clinton began softening up public opinion for the sending of up to 25,000 peacekeeping troops to Bosnia, despite his undertakings not to use ground troops.

As Bosnian Serb shelling of Muslim towns continued despite the Athens peace accords, Britain brushed aside Bosnian Serb warnings that "threats" of Western intervention could lead their parliament to reject the Vance-Owen plan. Pages 1, 12

Contracting out export expertise

A key part of the Foreign Office could be privatised as part of a government drive for efficiency. British embassies in Germany, France and Belgium have been told to find out whether market research firms can provide better reports on export opportunities. Page 1

Bombing charge

A man aged 22 will appear in court today charged with trying to bomb Downing Street using a device left in a minicab hours after the IRA's Bishopsgate blast last month. Page 1

Linley to marry

Viscount Linley, 31, the Queen's nephew and 12th in line to the throne, has announced his engagement to Serena Stanhope, 23, heiress to one of Britain's larger fortunes. Page 1

Fighting for care

Government lawyers are studying the case of a father of two children, suffering from a rare disease, who has been given leave to take Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, to court. Barry Daniels wants to force her to reopen the only special unit that might save his son's life. Page 1

Promotion fears

Civil servants fear that evidence they give to Lord Justice Scott's enquiry into the arms-related exports to Iraq could damage their promotion prospects. Page 2

Model performance

Richard Branson, airline chairman and pop music tycoon, has bridged the generation gap as a role model, a survey has found. He is a hero to British children and their parents. Page 3

Scarborough appeal

The playwright Alan Ayckbourn is to launch an appeal for more

than £4 million to convert a cinema into a modern theatre in Scarborough, the town where his career began. Page 5

Whaling warning

Norway's hopes of joining the European Community would be dashed if it were to resume commercial whaling without international approval. John Gummer, the agriculture minister, said. Page 7

Degrees of success

Senior academics at Cambridge University have promised to investigate the consistent male domination of first-class degrees. Page 8

Workers walk out

For the first time since Hitler banned free trade unions in May 1933, thousands of engineering and steelworkers in eastern Germany legally downed tools across the region after employers refused to honour an agreement to increase wages by 26 per cent. Page 10

Danish switch

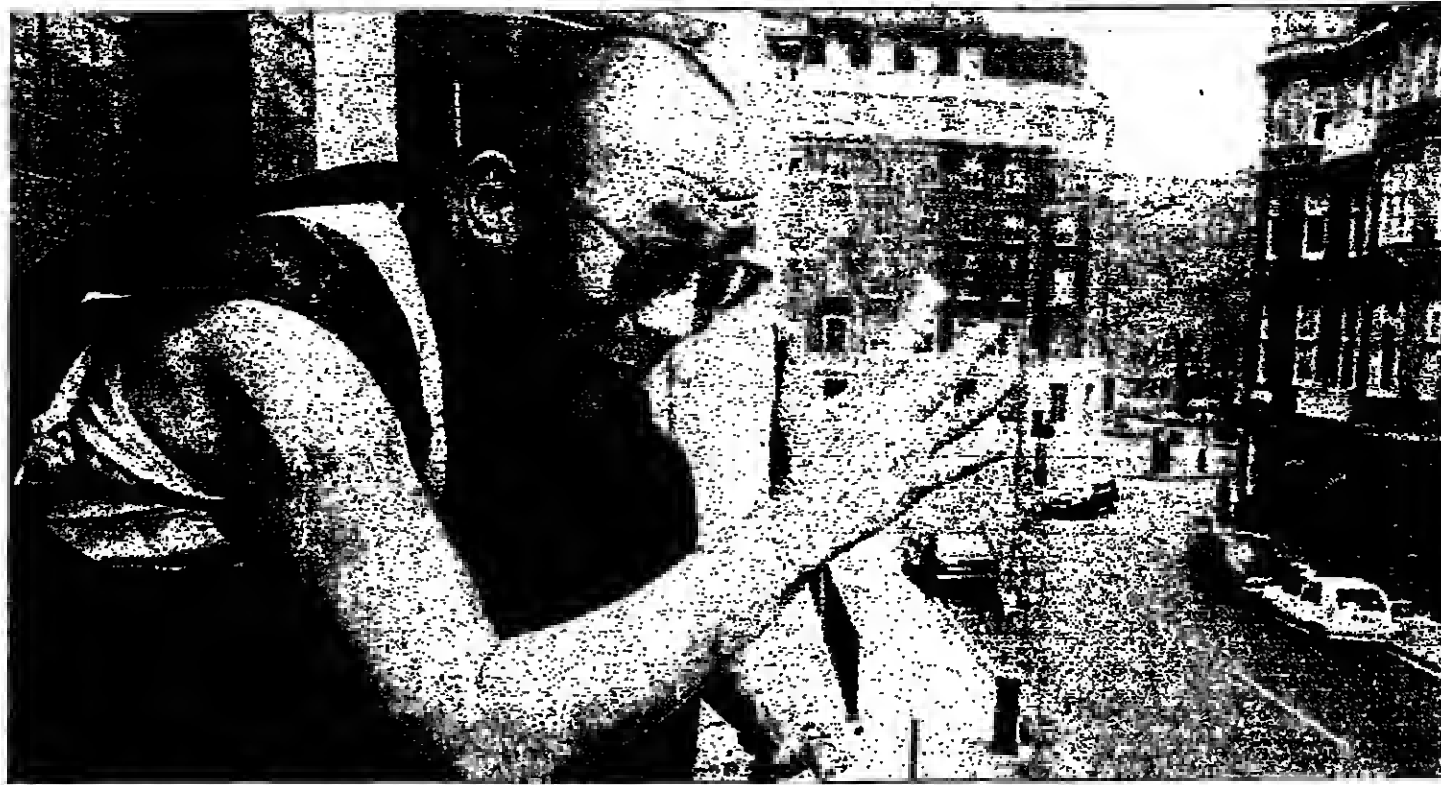
Opinion polls in Denmark continued to suggest that when Danes vote in a second referendum on the Maastricht treaty, on May 18, they will say "yes". Page 11

Terror for tourists

Tourists fled from their hotels to the safety of United Nations compounds when Khmer Rouge guerrillas attacked the north-west Cambodian town of Siem Reap. Page 13

Prostitutes take to the hills

South Glamorgan Health Authority is supporting a scheme for Cardiff's prostitutes to be given a day canoeing and rock climbing in the Welsh mountains in the hope that the change of scenery will boost their self-esteem. Posters offering the women "a taste of adventure" have been posted in the city's red-light district. Page 3



Hand of friendship: the Dalai Lama greeting pedestrians in London yesterday at the start of his two-week visit. Report page 5

Profit warning: Neil Clarke, the British Coal chairman has warned private companies that they will not be able to "rape and pillage" closed mines to make a quick profit. He wants a long-term strategy from firms seeking licences for the pits. Pages 38, 40

Selling up: Building societies are preparing to sell billions of pounds of loans so that they have sufficient funds to meet new mortgage demand. Page 40

Cash incentive: Sir Patrick Sheehy, chairman of BAT Industries, hopes tomorrow to justify his £1 million pay package when the company's first quarter results are published. Page 37

Football: "For Alex Ferguson it is not a job but an obsession. After his breaking the club firm in Scotland, now is his hour of freeing United from the albatross of 26 years without the title." Rob Hughes on Manchester United's title triumph. Pages 21, 22

Boxing: Lennox Lewis has won a victory before Saturday's WBC title fight against Tony Tucker in Las Vegas. Two British judges have been appointed, allaying fears of a "home town" decision. Page 26

Equestrianism: Jenny MacArthur on Kristina Gifford, the rider who went to Badminton last year and tackled the three-day event with two Pony Club horses. Page 26

Distraught and empty: The readiness to stick in the knife is standard in politics the world over, but it goes further in France. Charles Bremner on why the French are so nasty to one another. Page 14

Action group: Eighteen months after Robert Maxwell's death, former staff are still fighting for pensions. Page 29

Velvet circle: The underlying principle of behaviour therapy is that children's anti-social behaviour is not that different from normal behaviour in its development. Dr James Le Fanu on dealing with delinquents. Page 15

Banking on the avant-garde: A preview of the Barclays New Stages Festival, which opens with an unashamedly avant-garde event on a Sussex steam-train. Page 33

Basking in the avant-garde: Glasgow's Mayfest performing arts festival opened last Friday and among its attractions is a ten-part, multimedia exploration of the human body, plus a new production of *Macbeth*. Page 34

Money no object: *La Gioconda* is "Grade I bilge of the sort that gives opera a bad name", but Opera North's new production, sponsored by the Peter Moores Foundation, makes as strong a case for the opera as anybody could. Page 35

THE TIMES TOMORROW

Cultural match

Alison Roberts meets Iqbal Ahmad, an Indian-born septuagenarian, resident in Canada, whose writing "reinforces our appreciation of how fruitful the meeting of two cultures can be"

Mayfair moves

What is happening to Mayfair? Mary Wilson on why there are fewer brolieries and briefcases to bump into these days

Leading questions

Are interviewers too overbearing? Roy Hattersley reports on contemporary interviewing styles



Stephen Hendry won his third world championship title when he beat Jimmy White by 18 frames to five in the final in Sheffield. Pages 21, 24

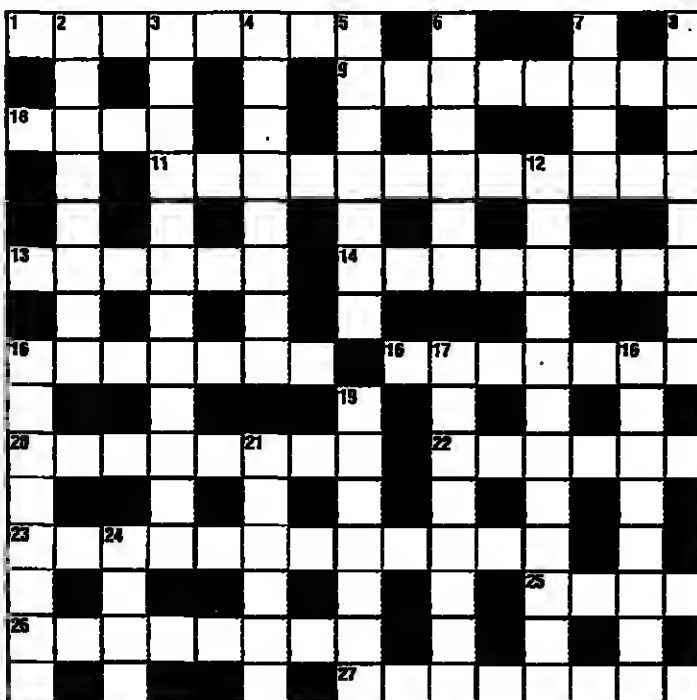


Carolyn Sinclair, a veteran of the policy unit at No 10, is in charge of the team drawing up the government's police reforms. Page 7



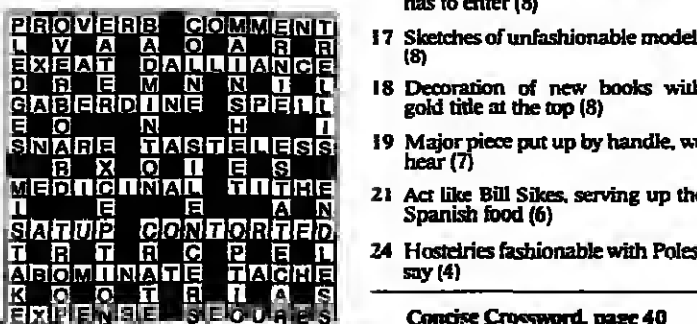
Björn Engholm, the leader of Germany's opposition Social Democrats, admitted lying to parliament and resigned from three top jobs. Page 10

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,221



- ACROSS**
- Giving up playing the violin, thus? (8)
 - Duck shot into space by neglect (8)
 - Sun-helmet one put on head (4)
 - See Carmelite working mysterious craft (5,7)
 - Question: a horse? A dead one (6)
 - Dine out with very little money? That is improper (8)
 - Sculpted work of bony king and queen (7)
 - Dash coupons off (7)
 - Capricious town in Bedfordshire with no capital (6)
 - Gift of old money (6)
 - Shock treatment? (12)
 - Holly is one going to law (4)
- DOWN**
- Complete, notwithstanding uncut base (8)
 - First of the line importing ore to be processed (12)
 - Where striker stands for more pay? (8)
 - Playgirl disappeared, largely to annoy (7)
 - Soldier-chief in balmy region (6)
 - Issue of rags (4)
 - Bun ingredients polished off — on top of table, presumably? (8)
 - English science defender is not long in chains (12)
 - Most difficult exam poor Hugo has to enter (8)
 - Sketches of unfashionable models (8)
 - Decoration of new books with gold title at the top (8)
 - Major piece put up by handle, we hear (7)
 - Act like Bill Sikes, serving up the Spanish food (6)
 - Hostelries fashionable with Poles, say (4)

Solution to Puzzle No 19,220



THE TIMES WEATHER

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0691 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701	West Midlands	713
East of England	702	East Midlands	714
West of England	703	North East	715
North East	704	North West	716
North West	705	Yorkshire & the Humber	717
Yorkshire & the Humber	706	Wales	718
Wales	707	Scotland	719
Scotland	708	Ireland	720
Ireland	709		

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	731
C. London (within N & S Circles)	732
M-ways/roads M4-M1	733
M-ways/roads M1-Dorsetford	734
M-ways/roads Dorsetford-T. M25	735
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	737
National motorways	738
West Country	739
Wales	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

WEATHER

Many places will have a cold start with some mist and a few fog patches. England and Wales will then have a dry, sunny day. Outbreaks of rain in northwest Scotland will clear away later, while the rest of Scotland and Northern Ireland will be dry with bright or sunny spells. Temperatures will generally be similar to yesterday, though it will feel quite cool in some southeastern coastal districts. Outlook: little change, most places remaining dry.

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Rain	Sea
London	12	10	10	0	1
Edinburgh	10	10	10	0	1
Belfast	12	10	10	0	1

UPDATES

London 8.20 pm to 5.27 am
Edinburgh 8.20 pm to 5.27 am
Manchester 8.44 pm to 5.28 am
Preston 8.46 pm to 5.28 am

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Rain	Sea
London	12	10	10	0	1
Edinburgh	10	10	10	0	1
Belfast	12	10	10	0	1

TODAY

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Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Rain	Sea
London	12	10	10	0	1
Edinburgh	10	10	10	0	1
Belfast	12	10	10	0	1

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Gifford prepares
for Badminton's
steep challenge

Late night moves
for the great chess
confrontation

Small firm
with a
rosette future

THE TIMES

TUESDAY MAY 4 1993

2

Gatting set to miss one-day series after gashing forearm



Gatting angry

By OUR SPORTS STAFF
MIKE Gatting, the Middlesex captain, is almost certain to miss the Texaco Trophy one-day international series against Australia after putting his arm through a plate glass window at Lord's yesterday. Gatting, the former England captain, was angry with himself after being run out during Middlesex's one-day match against Australia and in apparently trying to shove open the dressing-room door, he shattered the glass.

Gatting sustained a "serious" gash at the top of his left forearm and was taken immediately to St Mary's Hospital, Paddington. Joe Hardesty, the Middlesex secretary, said last night: "He has had lots of stitches to his hand and forearm. Happily there's no damage to tendons or ligaments but he is likely to be out for a couple of weeks."

England are due to pick their party for the Texaco Trophy next week and, with the first match against Australia taking place at Old Trafford on May 19, there seems no chance of Gatting being considered.

"Gatting went to shove the door open but missed the wooden panelling and put his hand right through a pane of glass," John Embury, his Middlesex and England team-mate, said. "It's a serious cut — a horseshoe-shaped gash."

Gatting's accident was only one of three dramatic incidents at Lord's yesterday, where Australia won by 69 runs. Tempers ran high all day.

Allan Border, the Australian captain, faces a possible fine from his tour management following a petulant stumping exhibition in front of 10,000 spectators. Border wheeled away towards the pavilion after he knocked back two stumps with his bat after being bowled for eight by a full toss from Angus Fraser.

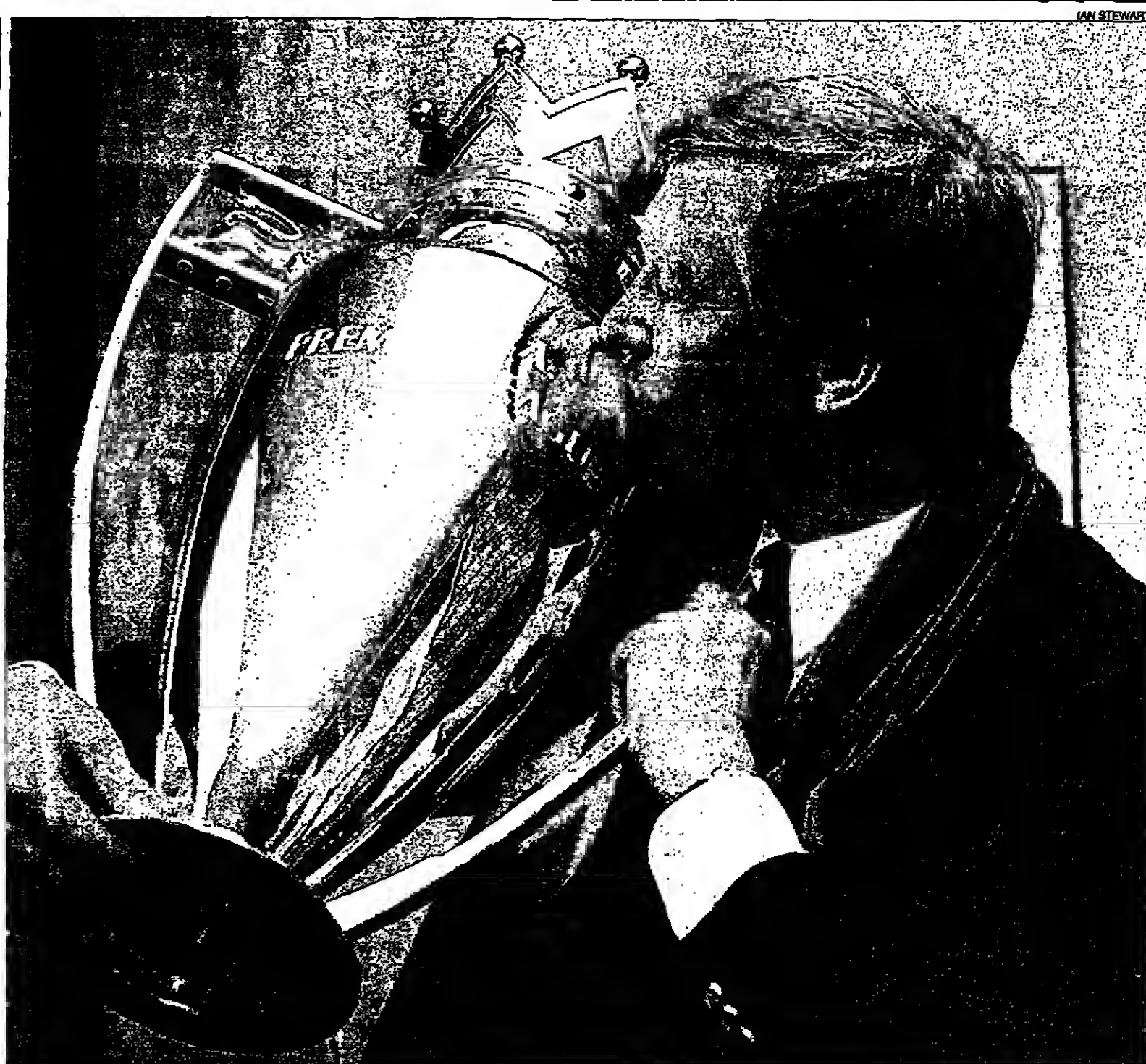
Hendry retains world title in flawless display

By PHIL YATES

STEPHEN Hendry became only the second player to successfully defend the Embassy world snooker championship at the Crucible Theatre by beating Jimmy White, the game's perennial nearly-man, 18-5 in a one-sided final in Sheffield yesterday.

The Scot, 24, has now lifted snooker's most-coveted trophy three times in the last four years but his overall performance in this year's championship was of a far higher standard than anything he, or anyone else, has produced at the Crucible.

White, Hendry carried his tournament earnings in eight professional years to over £3 million with the £175,000 first prize. White was left to reflect on being the runner-up for the fifth time and for the fourth year in succession.



Sealed with a kiss: Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, hugs the Premier League trophy at Old Trafford yesterday

Touts cash in on United's title celebrations

By IAN ROSS

MANCHESTER United supporters were warned to watch out for forged tickets last night when the FA Premier League title party began in earnest. United lifted the championship for the first time in 26 years thanks to Oldham's 1-0 win at Aston Villa on Sunday.

United could have secured the title, if Oldham had not obliged, by beating Blackburn at Old Trafford, but instead the occasion became one of celebration. The match was a 49,000 sell-out and tickets with a face value of £16 were

changing hands for £100. "This is better than selling tickets for Wembley," one tout said. "People have been going crazy trying to get tickets. They all want to be part of United's greatest moment for 26 years."

Ken Merritt, the United secretary, said: "People have got to beware of ticket forgers. We could have sold at least 20,000 more for tonight's game."

Supporters without tickets arrived from all over Britain and Ireland desperate to see the game and the trophy presentation.



Pot of gold: Hendry after winning his third world title

Master craftsman, page 24

THE END IS NEARER

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After ending a 26-year title wait Manchester United face sterner challenges

United ready to take high rank among champions



Can the Premier League champions go forward? Rob Hughes, football correspondent, looks for an answer

No sooner does the champagne moisten the lips, than the next questions, flood in. Have Manchester United achieved the chemistry of truly outstanding champions? Does this mean that United, with all their economic power, their worldwide cult following, are ready to be as dominant in the 1990s as Liverpool once were? The answers may be yes, and no.

Behind the red tide of Liverpool's supremacy was the relentless pursuit of any consistent winner in today's world. It is 11 years ago that I sat in the boardroom at Anfield with the chairman, John Smith, secretary, Peter Robinson, and manager, Bob Paisley.

They spoke of the planning, the buying and selling, the hurtful decisions that came with every championship.

"While others go trotting off to world cups, disappearing all summer, we are working for Liverpool," Robinson said. "I wouldn't need two hands to count the days Bill [Shankly] and Bob have missed training in 17 years, whereas other

minutes which United scored against Norwich at Carrow Road on April 5.

That effectively put paid to Norwich, the modest club whose porosity in defence betrayed their prolific goalscoring. After that, the only danger was Villa and, when weariness set in, United strode away from them in the manner of Eamonn Martin winning the London marathon.

But to be ahead in England merely extends the territory to Europe. And even if United were able, with their buying power and the rampant success of a youth team, to sustain the glory in England, Europe will be a very different matter.

For one thing, when Liverpool was omnipotent, there was no Silvio Berlusconi, with his gargantuan industrial muscle and his vested television interests, empowering Milan. Furthermore the greed in Europe means that the tournament has been reorganised so that it effectively imposes a second league structure into the season.

If that, with the arduousness and the physical strain of the Premier League were not handicap enough, the Uefa rules restricting teams to three foreigners is devastating to the British.

Manchester United, I believe, have a stronger squad, more flamboyant players, even than the Glasgow Rangers team which came within a game of reaching the European champions' cup final.

But if, for argument's sake, Ferguson chose Schuster, Cantona and Giggs as his foreigners, that would mean no place in a European cup-tie for Hughes, Irwin, Kanchelskis or McClair.

United are rich enough, they can buy, goes the glib reasoning. Sure they can; and by buying they could disrupt the rhythm, the harmony which has been there among the consistent squad of players chosen around Cantona, the catalyst who came after Ferguson had taken a phone call from the Leeds United manager, Howard Wilkinson.

Wilkinson sought to buy Irwin and was rejected. But on a whim, Ferguson enquired about Cantona, agreed the £1 million asking fee, and injected the dash of garlic to add spice to the mix of English and Celtic talents which has been the make-up of all successful English league champions.

That took a gambler's instinct. It also required Ferguson to go with that instinct — to choose artists and to let them play. It is one of the two outstanding qualities of the man; the other is a deep competitive core, one that has sustained him from a 540-a-week manager at East Stirling 18 seasons ago to one who has now turned over £22 million during seven seasons at Old Trafford.

"Go for their bloody throats," was the credo by which Ferguson galvanized managers are here, there and everywhere doing anything but their own jobs."

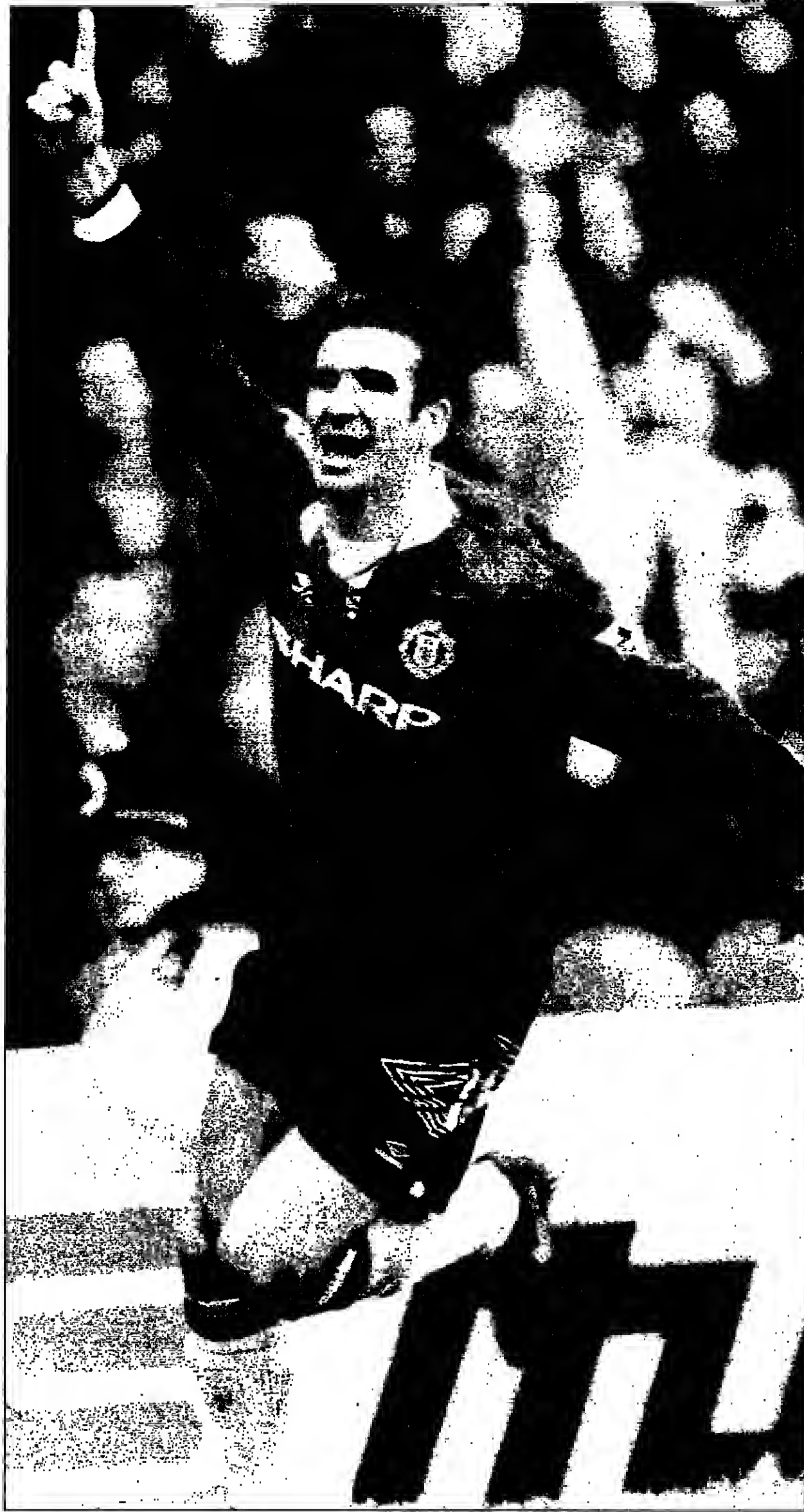


Hughes: fine finishing

For Alex Ferguson it is not a job, but an obsession. After his breaking the auld firm in Scotland, now is his hour of freedom. United from the albatross of 26 years without the title. No other club, not Blackburn with Jack Walker's millions, not Sheffield Wednesday with ball players to spare, not Arsenal or even Aston Villa are better equipped, better financed or loved.

And the freshness of limbs, the tenacity which goes right through to the bone of this Manchester United team left no one in doubt that they are worthy of their eighth title. In this they represent the cradle of football supremacy: the north of England.

Since 1888, there have been 64 League championships. 64 won in the north, 15 in the south, 14 in the Midlands and one in East Anglia. Neither shifting industrial and economic power has altered the balance of football inheritance, and the turning point this season came with those stunning three goals in eight



Gallic flair: Cantona has added another dimension of unpredictability to United's already exciting attack

Aberdeen to overrun Real Madrid in the Cup Winners' Cup final 11 years ago.

The message will not be the same today, for he swears a little less these days: the fires of his own tempestuous nature are a little less arrogant, and somewhat more under control.

But that night, Ferguson, the Scot who could not understand why English clubs buy all their players and produce so few through the ranks, eclipsed an opposing manager who had been his own hero: Alfredo di Stefano.

With his mix of players today, he has produced a side built solidly on defence where the captain, Steve Bruce, has kept rein on the wanderings of his partner, Fallister.

He has patiently instilled more maturity into Ince in midfield, he has constantly kept faith with the industry of McClair. In addition, the wing-play of Giggs, Sharpe and Kanchelskis has been a wonderful sight for British eyes which have tended towards sores since Alf Ramsey's wing-less wonders of 1966.

With Ince, however, the manager cannot take all the credit. Ince, thank goodness, in a Europe which now treats all the British nations as foreigners together, is of English stock. He has said in his charming Cockney: "The biggest change in my approach came when my son, Thomas, was born. I knew then there could not be room for two to play the child in our family."

But I have left one performer until the finish, and the finish of Hughes has contributed 16 goals to this championship season, some of them

the most intuitive and explosive volleys since the days of Law, Charlton and Best.

The finisher comes last because it is the sting in the tail. And in the case of Hughes, had the early-season bids of Ferguson to purchase Shearer and then Hirst been successful, Hughes might by now have been plying his trade with Newcastle United.

Would any other striker, with less bull-like strength, less instinctive reaction to the promptings of Cantona, have been as successful as this Welsh wizard of a goalscorer?

Jordan sacked by Hearts

JOE Jordan was yesterday relieved of his duties as manager of Heart of Midlothian, the Scottish League premier division side, following the team's 6-0 humiliation by Falkirk on Saturday (Roddy Forsyth writes).

Jordan, who was a notable and aggressive forward with Leeds United, Manchester United and AC Milan, and who made 52 appearances for Scotland, was appointed manager at Tynecastle in September 1990.

At that time, Wallace Mercer, the chairman, said that the club had sought a manager with contacts and experience at international level who had the business sense required to deal successfully in the transfer market. However, Jordan was to discover that Hearts had little in the way of surplus cash and he made his disenchantment known to Mercer, as well as to the media.

He was promised that, if money became available through the sale of players, he would be permitted to spend

to strengthen the team, but in a stagnant transfer market his room for manoeuvre was limited, although the club did earn £1.5 million by selling their central defender, Dave McPherson, to Rangers. There were no other deals of comparable magnitude and in recent months the only new player to be acquired was Alan Preston, who moved from Dundee United in an exchange with Scott Crabbe.

The only prospect of success this season lay in a



Jordan: disenchanted

successful Scottish Cup campaign, and although Heart of Midlothian were rated outsiders to beat Rangers in the semi-finals, they put up a spirited fight to lead the holders with 20 minutes left to play at Parkhead. Rangers drew level, ironically through McPherson, and when McCoist scored a late winner, Heart of Midlothian could hope for no better than a league placing good enough for entry to the Uefa Cup next season.

However, in recent weeks they have steadily lost ground and were overtaken by Dundee United, who now lead them by four points. Interestingly, Jordan's name had been connected with the manager's job at Dundee United, which will fall vacant when Jim McLean retires at the end of this season.

Meanwhile, Sandy Clark, the coach at Tynecastle, will take charge of the team until a permanent appointment is made and Jordan's assistant, Frank Connor, will remain for the time being.

Adams in Arsenal squad

ALTHOUGH many matches at this time of year are effectively "dead rubbers", eight of tonight's nine games in the Premier and Barclays Leagues involve one or more sides still interested in promotion or relegation, the exception being at Highbury, where Arsenal meet Queens Park Rangers.

Without six of their regulars, Arsenal played their part in a forgettable goalless draw at Everton on Saturday, but have Adams and Merson back in their squad tonight with everybody, according to Stewart Houston, the assistant manager, playing for their places in the Cup Final a week on Saturday. "We are giving them all a chance — it's up to them to take it," Houston said.

Sheffield Wednesday, Arsenal's opponents at Wembley, host a Leeds United side again depleted by injuries, yet still needing one point to be mathematically certain of avoiding relegation, while Sheffield United will be looking to reproduce the concentration that produced a 2-0

victory at Nottingham Forest on Saturday when they travel to Everton. A win would take United to 49 points and, with a superior goal difference to Oldham Athletic, virtual safety from the drop.

Already guaranteed a move in the opposite direction, Newcastle United will set Geordies everywhere jumping with celebration of the first division championship should they win down the east coast at Grimsby Town, although the regional cheer could be dampened if Sunderland lose at Tranmere Rovers in their efforts to escape a relegation battle that still has any two sides from seven doomed to join Bristol Rovers a tier down come August.

Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, said: "It's in our own hands, and that's the way we've always wanted it. It would be lovely to finish it off with a win at Grimsby. We are totally geared to that and with 12 away victories this season, we are quite capable of doing it."

"If the players needed any

extra incentive, they need only remember that it was Grimsby who ended our magnificent start to the season. We'd won 11 league games on the trot before they came to our place and beat us 1-0. Revenge would be nice — but the championship even nicer."

Derek Fazackerley, the coach at St James' Park, added: "We aim to get it all over in one, leaving our remaining two matches, against Oxford and Leicester, to be one big party."

In the second division, Port Vale supporters will for once be hoping that their Potteries rivals, Stoke City, collect three points. If they win at Exeter City and Stoke at Bolton Wanderers, Vale will join their neighbours in the first division next term.

Swansea City will book a play-off place if they beat Wigan Athletic at home; and in the third division, Colchester United, too, are still involved in the pursuit of a place in the play-offs, although defeat at Darlington would end that chase.

SPORTS BRIEF

Seles expected to enter US clinic

MONICA Seles was in Denver, Colorado, yesterday, reportedly headed for a sports clinic to receive further treatment for the stab wound she received while playing in the Hamburg tournament last Friday. She is expected to enter the Steadman Hawkins Clinic at Vail Valley Medical Centre, where she was treated in 1991.

Seles, 19, was feeling "a little better," according to her agent, Stephanie Tolleson, but will remain under medical supervision for the foreseeable future. She is certain to miss the Italian Open and very probably the French Open, which she has won for the last three years. Wimbledon, which is eight weeks away, is the only grand slam event she has not won.

Security is to be tightened for the French championships, which start on May 24. Christian Bimes, president of the French tennis federation, said yesterday that probable measures include a body search of all spectators at the two-week grand slam event. Bimes said a meeting to discuss security at this year's tournament would be held in Paris this week.

Irish end unbeaten

BOWLS: Ireland and Wales took the opening two titles when the seven countries classic tournament reached the halfway stage in Jersey yesterday. Victor Dallas, Iain McClure and Charlie Davis gave Ireland the triples when they finished unbeaten with five wins and a draw, while in the pairs, Phil Rowlands and Robert Weale just held on to edge out England and Scotland on shot aggregate.

In the triples, the Irish side ran out 16-11 winners over Israel to give Ireland their first title in this event. Weale and Rowlands, however, had to work a lot harder for their pairs victory after going down 21-18 to David Peacock and Alex Marshall, of Scotland. With Gerry Smyth and Grant Burgess, of England, beating Guernsey 34-12, all three countries finished on eight points, but Wales took the title with a shot aggregate of plus 52.

Millard misses tour

RUGBY UNION: David Millard, right, the London Scottish scrum half, has withdrawn from the Scotland tour to Fiji, Tonga and Western Samoa because of a lower back injury sustained in the World Cup Sevens at Murrayfield last month. Scotland have already lost Derek Stark, Dale McIntosh and Alan Sharp from their squad. Bryan Redpath, of Melrose, will replace Millard.



Zambia mourns team

FOOTBALL: An estimated 150,000 people joined the cortege in Lusaka yesterday for the funeral of the Zambia national team that perished in a plane crash. The 30 players, officials and crew on the Zambian air force plane were buried just outside the Independence Stadium, home of the national side, in a six-hour ceremony. There were 18 members of the national squad on the plane, taking them to a World Cup match in Senegal, which crashed off the coast of Gabon last Tuesday. Zambia has been in a state of shock since the tragedy, with nationwide mourning for the players. Most of the 150,000 at the funeral had to stand outside the stadium, which holds 35,000.

Mansell returns home

MOTOR SPORT: Nigel Mansell was released from hospital yesterday, following back surgery last week, and is expected to compete in the Indianapolis 500 on May 30. Mansell will spend a week recuperating at his home in Clearwater, Florida, a spokesman for the Newman-Haas IndyCar team said. The Formula One champion aims to begin practice at the Indianapolis track next week. Mansell complained of discomfort after an accident during practice at the Phoenix International on April 3 and x-rays on his lower back showed that a separation of muscle tissue had created a space which had filled with blood and other body fluids. The cavity was cleaned and stitches used to close the space.

Lyons rampant

REAL TENNIS: The rapidly-improving Andrew Lyons of Queen's survived a tense struggle with the stylish Steve Brockenshaw, of Moreton Morrell, to win his opening match of the BNB Resources British professional championship at Holford. Lyons' extra aggression and weight of shot just gave him the edge, but Brockenshaw produced a string of fluent back hands to keep his opponent under pressure. In the young professionals' championship, the Taylor Cup, Rob Whitehouse, of Philadelphia, reached the final in emphatic style and will now meet Hugh Latham, the Queen's assistant, who recently turned professional.

Lewis tries longer race

ATHLETICS: Carl Lewis, right, ran 400 metres in competition for the first time at the Houston invitational meeting on Sunday and finished fifth to Mike Marsh, the Olympic 200 metres winner. Marsh won in 45.53sec with Lewis clocking 47.01. "I just went out too slow," Lewis said. "If I get the chance again, I'll have more confidence to go out faster. I didn't die at the end."



McGovern's late show

GOLF: Jim McGovern sank a 25-foot birdie putt on the second hole of a sudden-death play-off with John Huston to win the rain-shortened \$1.3 million Houston Open on Sunday. McGovern made an eagle three at the 15th and sank an eight-foot birdie putt at the last to force the play-off. The pair finished on 199, 17 under par. The tournament was reduced to three rounds after two days of rain delays and the loss of the third round on Saturday. Blaine Stewart, who shot a six-under-par 66 on Sunday, Blaine Stewart, the overnight leader, and Donnie Hammond all had putts on the final hole that could have put them into the play-off.

Phoenix beaten again

BASKETBALL: Los Angeles Lakers beat Phoenix Suns 86-81 on Sunday to leave the National Basketball Association's leading team one game away from elimination in the play-offs. Lakers lead the best-of-five series 2-0. New York Knicks beat Indiana Pacers 101-91 in New York to take a 2-0 lead in the series while in Chicago, Michael Jordan scored 29 points to lead Chicago Bulls to a 117-102 victory over Atlanta Hawks. Boston Celtics will be without Reggie Lewis, their leading scorer, for the rest of the play-offs after he collapsed during a match against Charlotte Hornets with heart problems.





Channel vision: Hendry at the table during the world championship final at Sheffield which he wrapped up yesterday afternoon, 18-5 after leading 12-4 over night

Master craftsman of green baize

Phil Yates profiles Stephen Hendry, who won his third world title yesterday to extend his domination of snooker in the Nineties

WHILE Steve Davis was undoubtedly the player of the Eighties, it is difficult to envisage anyone other than Stephen Hendry occupying the equivalent role in the Nineties. From the time that Hendry's cherubic face first appeared on television in the BBC series *Junior Pot Black*, it was clear to knowledgeable observers that he was the most prodigious talent to emerge since a 16-year-old Jimmy White became the English amateur champion in 1978.

Like so many of his contemporaries, Hendry started to play on a miniature table bought as a Christmas present by his parents. This proved an investment, for almost immediately Hendry demonstrated a remarkable aptitude and appetite for the game.

As a 15-year-old schoolboy, he captured the first of his two successive Scottish amateur championship titles and, by now under the management

wing of Ian Doyle, a Stirling businessman who remains his mentor, he turned professional at 16 in 1985.

Nine months later, Hendry survived four qualifying rounds to become, at 17 years and three months, the youngest player to compete in the final stages of the world championship at the Crucible Theatre. He lost 10-8 in the first round to Willie Thorne, but it was obvious he lacked only experience and fine tuning.

Hendry won the Scottish professional final in 1986 and 1987, and in October of that year he achieved his biggest breakthrough by beating Dennis Taylor 10-7 in the final of the Rothmans Grand Prix — a world ranking tournament.

The progression from prospect to regular winner, an inevitable one given his ability and rock solid temperament, continued. In 1989, he prevailed in both the Benson and Hedges Masters, snooker's most prestigious invitation event, and the United Kingdom championship.

However, it was in April 1990 that Hendry achieved his long-standing ambition of superceding Alex Higgins as the youngest world champion. When he beat White 18-12 in the final, Hendry was only three months past his 21st birthday.

1993 EMBASSY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP				
FIRST ROUND	SECOND ROUND	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
Stephen Hendry (1) Denny Fowler	Hendry 10-1			
Darren Morgan (16) Les Dodd	Morgan 10-5	Hendry 13-4		
Nigel Bond (9) Spencer Dunn	Bond 10-4	Bond 13-7	Hendry 13-7	
Gary Wilkinson (8) Dean Reynolds	Wilkinson 10-4			
Neal Foulds (5) Brian Morgan	Foulds 10-5	Foulds 13-7		Hendry 16-8
Mark King (12) Karl Payne	King 10-6			
Alan McManus (13) Ronnie O'Sullivan	McManus 10-7	McManus 13-11	McManus 13-11	
Steve Davis (4) Peter Ebdon	Davis 10-3			CHAMPION Hendry 18-5
Jimmy White (3) Joe Swail	White 10-4			
Alain Robidoux (14) Doug Mountjoy	Mountjoy 10-6	White 13-6	White 13-8	
Dennis Taylor (11) Tony Drago	Taylor 10-9	Taylor 13-11		White 16-9
Terry Griffiths (6) David Roe	Griffiths 10-6			
James Wattana (7) Tony Jones	Wattana 10-7	Wattana 13-7	Wattana 13-6	
Steve James (10) John Giles	James 10-2			
Willie Thorne (15) Shaun Muelish	Thorne 10-6	Parrott 13-8		
John Parrott (2) Stephen O'Connor	Parrott 10-1			

Prize-money this year totals £1 million. Champion: £175,000. Runner-up: £105,000. Losing semi-finalists: £55,000. Losing quarter-finalists: £25,000. Second round losers: £14,000. First round losers: £8,000. Highest break: £14,400

From the commencement of the 1990 world championship to his 10-4 defeat by White in the final of the Mercantile Credit Classic in January 1991, Hendry established a record of 36 consecutive match victories in world ranking events.

That mark was beaten this season by Ronnie O'Sullivan

with 38 successive wins. But the quality of that performance was diluted somewhat by the fact that they were all registered at the pre-qualifying school in Blackpool against lowly-ranked, generally weaker opponents.

During the 1990-1 season, Hendry prevailed in the Regal Scottish Masters, Rothmans

Grand Prix, Asian Open, Dubai Classic, UK championship and British Open, but his most memorable triumph came at the Benson and Hedges Masters when he recovered from seemingly impossible 7-0 and 8-2 deficits to edge Mike Hallett, 9-8.

Having figured in the latter stages of so many competi-

tions throughout the season, Hendry arrived at the Crucible for the defence of his world title looking jaded. Mental burnout and fearless potting from Steve James contributed to his surprise 13-11 quarter-final defeat.

Winning so regularly had become a poisoned chalice, but that did not deter Hendry from again dominating last season. He won a record nine tournaments, collected prize-money of £645,300 and compiled his first competitive 147 maximum break, in the Matchroom League.

Despite this, the season seemed destined to end in disappointment when Hendry trailed White 14-8 in the final of the world championship. His extraordinary response to the crisis was to win the following ten frames — finishing with back to back century breaks — to take the title.

This season has seen a dip in Hendry's productivity curve. He had won only three events prior to the world championship, including a fifth consecutive Benson and Hedges Masters, but peak form could not have returned at a more opportune moment.

In winning the International Open in Plymouth four weeks ago, Hendry gave an indication of how sweetly he was cueing by breaking the record for century breaks compiled in a single tournament with ten. He has now recorded more centuries in professional competition, 206, than anyone else and his 35 centuries in world championship play also constitutes a record.

Faldo provides helping hand for Challenge competitors

Mel Webb reports on one company that went right to the top as the Times Olivetti Corporate Challenge tees off across Britain

COMPANIES the length and breadth of the land have responded enthusiastically to the concept of the Times Olivetti Corporate Challenge, but one firm had an extra and unique feature at its golf day last week — Nick Faldo.

Faldo, Open champion and world No 1, has had a long association with Olive Hall plc, and he was the main attraction at the Mayfair-based company's golf day at Brockley Hall last Friday. Faldo took the Open Championship trophy, the famous old claret jug, with him to the picturesque Hertfordshire course, put the players through their paces, and then joined them in the competitive part of the day in the afternoon.

On the warmest day of the year, he gave a brief demonstration of the basics of the golf swing and answered questions, then, in one of the highlights of the day, spent a few minutes with each player talking about their swing.

"We have done many of these days with Nick before, and we are always amazed at his patience with every player, be they single-figure handicapper or somebody who is very much in the learning stage," William Florde, finance director of the company, said.

Encouraged, or, in some cases, perhaps, demoralised by Faldo's master-class, the players went out on the course in the afternoon and the great man joined several of the groups to play alongside them.

Top scorer of the day was Danny Desmond, Olive Hall's chairman, who had 37 Stableford points playing

off an 18 handicap. Mark Booth was the company's second highest scorer on 32, and 12-handicapper Florde, still, he pleaded, getting to grips with his newly-shaved clubs, came in with 27. Leading guest was Steve Yarnold, who ran up a total of 36 points.

"We found that the fact that we were playing in the Corporate Golf Challenge gave the day an extra competitive edge," Florde said. "The serious players knew there was something to go for — the day was a great success."

Bride Hall's experience has been echoed by other companies who have registered for the challenge. Committed entries have now passed the 100 mark, and John Mitchell, of Mitchell Moore Associates, which is running the competition, has reported a huge response from board rooms up and down the country. "We are still way ahead of our most optimistic forecasts for the challenge," Mitchell said. "We have had upwards of 800 enquiries,



and more are coming every day. We are very encouraged by the response."

The challenge is the first major corporate golf competition to be staged in the United Kingdom. Any company that stages a golf day in which at least 25 players take part is eligible to register. Competition consists of an 18-hole Stableford, with players off of a maximum 24 handicap for men and 30 for women; the leading three members of staff and the leading guest form the team to qualify.

Finals will be held at leading clubs in the five regions with all golf expenses paid. The best 25 teams will fly with Viva Air, the leisure arm of Iberia, the Spanish national airline, on an all-expenses paid trip to the national final from November 25 to 29 on the famous Arnold Palmer-designed South Course at the luxurious Hyatt La Manga Club in southern Spain. The names of winners and their scores, as well as dates of forthcoming golf days, will appear regularly in *The Times*.

Winner to see Lewis

MR RICHARD Long, of Saltsay, Cornwall, has won *The Times/Sky Sports* competition offering a trip for two to the world heavyweight boxing title bout between Lennox Lewis and Tony Tucker on Saturday. Mr Long and his guest will fly to Las Vegas, enjoy five nights bed and breakfast at the Flamingo Hilton hotel and ringside seats. He will also receive £500 spending money and a boxing glove signed by Lewis as a memento.

Mr Long's was the first drawn from all correct entries received by the closing date yesterday. Three runners-up — Mr Stephen Lamin, of Ryde Avenue, Grantham, Mr

Mark Ambrose, of Isleworth, and Ms Jacqueline Stevens, of Southampton — have won a satellite television system, with full installation and a year's free subscription to Sky Sports.

Ten SPX merchandise packs, including Lennox Lewis T-shirts and baseball caps, have been won by: Mr Stephen Swan, Stevenage; Mr Tony Shelton, Edinburgh; Mr Ian Shale, Birmingham; Mr David Stone, London NW6; Mr R Garlick, London SW11; Mr James Moore, London SW5; Mr Bruce Dore, Baldock, Herts; Mr B Thrush, Cambridge; Ms Zara Ramprakash, London N10, and Ms Sue Lockyer, Abbots Langley, Herts.

ANSWERS: 1, Donovan "Razor" Rudock; 2, Frank Maloney; 3, Frank Bruno

Cwmbran seal European Cup place

By WALTER GAMMIE

CWMBRAN will play in the 1990 world championship on Saturday to enable a 1-0 victory at Llanelli yesterday won the club from Gwent the Konica League of Wales title and the substantial prize granted to the Football Association of Wales for establishing a recognised national league.

A goal in the 87th minute, headed powerfully by Wayne Goodridge from a corner taken by Micky Dicks, settled a long and exhausting struggle with Inter Cardiff that has dominated the league's inaugural season.

Inter, who drew 0-0 at Afan Lido on Saturday to enable Cwmbran to take the title without needing points from their final match at Cornah's Quay next Saturday, have the consolation of entry into the UEFA Cup next season.

Tony Wilcox, the Cwmbran manager, said: "I don't think what we have achieved will sink in for some time. We will have to pinch ourselves and ask ourselves what we are

doing here. We are not a fashionable club, but whoever we wind up with in the draw, we will be going out to do Welsh football and Wales proud."

If Cwmbran are drawn against modest opposition in the preliminary round of the European Cup, they hope to use their home ground, the Cwmbran Athletic Stadium, which has a capacity of

	P	W	O	L	F	A	Pts
Cwmbran	37	25	9	3	98	32	84
Inter Cardiff	36	25	5	7	73	38	83
Aberystwyth	37	24	3	10	82	48	75
Bangor	38	19	12	7	77	58	64
Elbow Vale	37	18	9	10	73	60	63
Holywell	36	17	8	13	65	48	59
Conwy	36	16	8	12	51	48	57
Alun Lido	37	14	10	13	62	62	50
Portmadoc	37	13	11	13	60	49	50
Haverfordwest	36	15	10	11	61	50	50
Carmarthen	37	13	10	14	60	49	49
Cornah's O	34	15	4	15	61	84	49
Mold	37	15	3	19	58	46	46
Llanelli	38	12	8	18	50	81	44
Maesteg Park	37	9	13	15	50	34	40
Porth Tawe	37	11	8	20	47	64	39
Bryn Fery	38	10	9	19	81	87	39
Newtown	37	8	20	21	46	89	30
Llanidloes	37	7	9	21	46	89	30
Aberystwyth	38	7	7	24	36	76	28

* 3pts deducted

13,200. "If we get drawn against somebody big, give us the Arms Park," Wilcox said.

Cwmbran's triumph has been founded on a grudging defence, marshalled by their captain, Jimmy Blackie. "We've kept 19 clean sheets, which is 50 per cent of our matches," Wilcox said. "It's not to say we aren't attacking. We play with three forwards."

Their season hit two low points. In October, they were struggling for money but were bailed out by a sponsor. In January, George Thorneycroft, their chairman, who was chairman of Newport County when they reached the quarter-finals of the European Cup Winners' Cup in 1980-1, slipped and fell on ice when Cwmbran were playing at Afan Lido.

Wilcox said: "George was critically ill and put on a life-support machine for 12 days. He has put an awful lot into the club over the past seven or eight years and it was marvellous for the club that he was with us to share our triumph."

Lyn Jones, the Inter manager, knows the lift that playing in Europe can bring. He was in charge of the Merthyr Tydfil team that beat Atalanta, the Italian club, 2-1 in the first leg of a Cup Winners' Cup tie in 1987. "There were 10,000 people packed in, it was a marvellous night." Two goals given away in the first 16 minutes in the second leg put an end to Merthyr's dreams.

Jones reflected ruefully on a prize that slipped from Inter's grasp with a 2-0 defeat at Portmadoc two weeks ago. "Things generally even out over a season. We failed to beat Cwmbran in our two meetings, and in fact didn't manage to score against them, so you can't do anything other than say 'well done'."

"All the players in the dressing-room were down after the match on Saturday but I got the champagne out and told them that a lot of clubs in the Premier League would give a lot to be in the UEFA Cup in September — and we had got there."

Tinkerer tailors classic success

By PATRICIA DAVIES

IN WINNING the Ford Classic on Sunday, Federica Dassa, a resident of Florence and Woburn Sands, provided a reminder that the women's European tour is not just about marketable young tyros like Trish Johnson and Annika Sorenstam. Relative veterans like Dassa, 36, who have worked hard to keep the tour going over the last few, difficult years, have a part to play in its future as well.

The Italian is the epitome of a good professional, although an inclination to be too technical has sometimes hindered her. On Wednesday, one of her pro-am partners suggested she should be less mechanical with her putting and she decided to concentrate on feel, with splendid results.

The same suggestion had also been mooted by Dassa's brother, Baldovino, who no longer plays on the men's tour but is still remembered for his round of 60 at Crans-sur-Sierre and is always willing to criticise his sister's method. She, an inveterate tinkerer of the Leadbetter tendency, is always willing to listen, if not to agree.

On Sunday, enough of the pieces fell into place at the right time and she now finds herself leading the Spalding order of merit, with £10,500, and the Solheim Cup points table. It is a fair return for the Italian Golf Federation, which is paying Dassa's expenses this sea-

son plus those of Stefania Croce and six of the men professionals, including Costantino Rocca, who has also won.

Dassa might reflect that golf in Italy is a bit like the women's tour — there are some classy acts but not enough of them. It is a case of plenty of quality but not enough width, although things must be improving when Laura Davies barely rates a mention throughout the course of a tournament in Britain. She did finish fifth, however, without really threatening, and her presence was invaluable. A large proportion of the crowd on the last day — estimated at 10,000, which took the total to a record 25,000 overall — wanted to watch Davies and she remains compulsive viewing.

The powers-that-be at Ford, normally notoriously slow to commit themselves, were so impressed with it all that they were pledging their support for next year before the tournament was over. That will be welcome news for the champion, who has never managed to defend any of her three previous titles because the sponsor withdrew each time.

Dassa is also very much persona grata at Woburn now. Exercising a form of droit de seigneur, Lord Tavistock proposed her for membership and there were no dissenters. Rank still has its privileges.

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Schools blamed for youth cricket decline

MANY young people are not taking up cricket because of its decline in state schools, a survey of the game at youth level has revealed (two Tennant writes). The attitude of clubs and the lack of local facilities were also heavily criticised.

Around 1,300 questionnaires were completed by club secretaries in response to the survey, commissioned by The National Cricket Association (NCA) and Sun Life of Canada. Lack of media coverage

below first-class level and insufficient qualified coaches were also regarded as reasons why some young people were not being drawn to the game.

As many as 97 per cent of respondents highlighted the lack of cricket in many schools as the main reason why it was perceived as not having a wider appeal. A total of 84 per cent said that clubs were not doing enough to encourage more young people and 79 per cent criticised the shortage of facilities in their areas.

The distractions of other sports and activities, the amount of time that the game takes, the complexity of its rules and a perception that it was both slow and unglamorous were strongly emphasised. A number of replies advocated promoting and developing alternative forms of the game, with Kwik Cricket being specifically mentioned.

The poor quality of many local authority pitches was cited in many replies. Several clubs wanted greater liaison between themselves and schools. It was also felt that Test and county cricketers should put more back into the game at the lower levels.

The NCA stressed yesterday that although the plight of the game in state schools was of great concern, it had a number of programmes in place to deal with some of the other problems raised in the survey. It said it was vital young people were given greater opportunities.

Maloney gets the verdict on appointment of British judges



King regrets

THINGS are going well for Lennox Lewis, who is here putting the finishing touches to his preparations for the first defence of his World Boxing Council (WBC) title, against Tony Tucker, of the United States. Let us hope it stays that way when he steps into the ring at the Thomas and Mack Centre on Saturday.

The main concern of Lewis's British friends was about a home-town decision if the bout went the distance, but that fear has been removed with the Nevada State Athletic Commission's decision to appoint two British judges, Harry Gibbs and Mickey Vann.

It was a personal triumph for Lewis's manager, Frank Maloney, over Don King, the most powerful and flamboyant promoter in America. "We played three-card brag and we

won," Maloney said. "King tried to take over Lennox by showing him how much money he has and failed. He tried to get options and failed there again. And now the judges. Mickey Duff said I did a Cecil B de Mille in reverse. I took a superstar, Lennox, and made him into a nothing. I have never forgotten those words."

While it was Maloney who secured the nomination of the judges by making contractual concessions to the WBC, he was also helped by comments made by Rock Newman, the manager of Riddick Bowe, the World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation champion, which called into question the integrity of the commission. It felt obliged to bend over backwards for the British.

Srikumar Sen, boxing correspondent, reports from Las Vegas on victory for the champion's camp before Lennox Lewis's first title defence

On hearing that Lewis was going to defend against Tucker in Las Vegas, Newman said: "If Tucker is still standing by the eleventh round, Lewis had better take an Uzi with him," implying that he would not get the decision.

King gave the impression of not being concerned about the appointment of the two judges. "I believe that fair play will be administered by the British judges," he said. "Anyway, Tucker's going to knock him out. In this fight you don't need judges."

In fact, King, who desperately wants to regain his hold

on the world heavyweight championship, has missed a trick. No matter how fair the British judges are, King allowed Lewis to gain a psychological advantage that he would not have had had the judges been neutral.

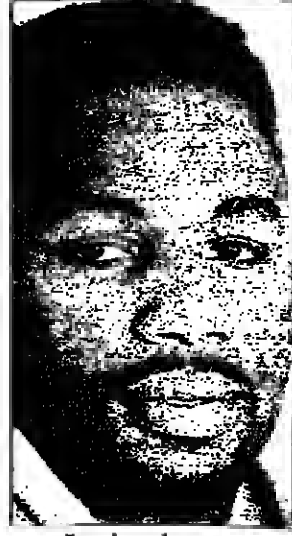
King has clearly been under too much pressure to see to every detail. He is regretting paying \$12 million for the right to stage the contest. Only 7,000 tickets have been sold for the arena which seats 19,000. And by all accounts the pay-per-view television side is not doing much better, even after the inclusion of men

like Julio Cesar Chavez, Julian Jackson and others on the bill labelled Star Spangled Glory. King has blamed Maloney for the lack of interest, calling him a snake, a rat, a weasel and even a porcupine. But the terrier from Peckham laughed it off. "I don't mind what he calls me so long as Lennox wins," he said. "I don't know what I've done. I've co-operated in every way." Maloney added that Lewis was committed to appearing in 30 radio shows and had completed 20 out of 27 television appearances.

It seemed that the real reason for King's anger was Lewis's refusal to co-operate in the making of television commercials. They played on Anglo-American rivalries and Lewis thought they mocked the Queen and American val-

ues. He refused to speak his lines and Tucker had to do all the talking.

However, his exposure in America is important. The American public is confused about who is the real champion. For most of them, the best is still Mike Tyson. They know little about Lewis. Lewis is in a similar position as Ingemar Johansson in 1958. Johansson stopped Eddie Machen, but the American public wanted to see him against better opposition, and Johansson then went on to knock out Floyd Patterson. If Lewis, having stopped one No 1 contender in Donovan "Razor" Ruddock, who went the distance with Tyson, could stop another, Tucker, who also lasted 12 rounds with Tyson, Americans could start believing in him.



Lewis: advantage

Progress by Rake promises good summer

By CRAIG LORDB

KAREN Rake took another giant stroke in the direction of a fruitful summer at the Speedo Grand Prix swimming final last night, collecting the breaststroke category title by adding victory in the 200 metres to her success in the 100 metres on Sunday.

Rake, 17, of the Maxwell Chipping Norton club, has made her three days at the Empire Pool in Cardiff an exercise in point winning and point proving. Her maximum score gained maximum effect as it was achieved in her first long-course outing of the season, at a distance some thought too long for her.

She won in 2min37.29sec, beating Jaime King, the Swindon Tigershark who was also second in the 100 metres. Though King turned first at the halfway mark, she faded over the last 50 metres to finish in 2min38.28sec. Both performances are encouraging in an event in which a British swimmer, Anita Lonsborough, last won an Olympic gold medal at Rome in 1960.

While Christian Keller, of Germany, collected his fifth victory of the event, with a world-class time of 2min 03.75sec in the 200 metres medley, Paul Palmer of the City of Lincoln, and one of Keller's rivals at freestyle, claimed the distance freestyle grand prix title with a comfortable victory in the 400 metres. Keller also won the 100 metres, in 51.07sec.

Swimming as a wild-card entry and therefore not scoring grand prix points, Sarah Hardcastle claimed her third victory with another matter-of-fact performance in the 400 metres freestyle. The former Commonwealth champion so outclassed the field last night that she might have been in a time trial. Second place for Angela Pendrich, six seconds adrift, confirmed the Beckenham swimmer as distance freestyle champion.

Helen Slater, of Warrington Warriors, was the only woman to retain her grand prix title, after victories at both 200 and 400 metres medley. Slater, who will maintain her heavy workload to within a few days of the trials for the European championships in six weeks' time, has consistently been Britain's best all-round swimmer this season.

In the backstroke, the same is true for Kathy Osher, of Barnet Copthall, who won all three events to retain the position as Britain's leading backstroke specialist.

Born and bred for Badminton's challenge

Jenny MacArthur talks to an ambitious young rider preparing for the most demanding of her sport's three-day events

Kristina Gifford went to Badminton last year to "have a good time and to finish." At the age of 21, it was her first attempt at the world's most famous three-day event. It was also the biggest course her two horses had jumped. "They were even capable of jumping fences that big," Gifford said.

The two horses did so well that she will be riding them again in this year's event, which starts on Thursday.

Smithstown Lad, a former Irish hunter, and Song And Dance Man, a thoroughbred, did more than merely finish. Despite treacherous conditions on the cross-country section, Song And Dance Man had a clear round and was tenth. Smithstown Lad made two small errors and was 27th.

Two weeks later, Jane Holderness-Roddam, chairman of the selectors, rang to tell Gifford she was on the Olympic long list. "I put down the phone, went outside and screamed—I couldn't believe it," Gifford recalled.

Others were less surprised. If anyone was bred to eventing, it is Gifford. Her father, Josh, was the champion National Hunt jockey on four occasions and is a successful trainer. Her mother, the former Althea Roger-Smith, was best known as a showjumper, but also evented—finishing second at Burghley in 1967 on Questionnaire.

Althea is her daughter's jumping trainer. Jane Kidd helps with the dressage. Josh stays out of the way. "If I tell her anything, she ignores it so I don't say much," he said. However, he does allow his daughter to use his gallops "with permission".

Kristina, who at 9in considered herself too tall for a racing career, has her own yard close to her father's at Findon, overlooking the Sussex Downs.

It was on one of Josh's "buying" trips to Ireland that Smithstown Lad was spotted. "We were at Tom Costello's yard," Althea recalls, "and I saw a hog-maned, rather nondescript six-year-old. Costello's son rode him and he soared over a hedge. I then got on him and rode him deep into a fence and he jumped that beautifully, too. He was very athletic and I liked his jumping style."

He was bought initially for Nick, Kristina's brother, to



Two's company: Gifford and Smithstown Lad find time for mutual admiration at Findon where they have been preparing for the stern examination they will be facing later this week. Photograph: Stephen Markeson

hunt. She was horrified when she first saw the apparition walk out of the box at Findon. "I was expecting some flashy animal," she said. However, she volunteered to "educate" him for her brother and that was the last he heard of his hunter.

Song And Dance Man, whom Gifford describes as "a very bright and intelligent horse", was spotted as a five-year-old at a local show by Althea's sister, Sarah. His exuberance makes him the more difficult horse of the two in the dressage arena.

"He could be working in perfectly in the practice arena and then some clapping, or a tent flapping, will set him off. Basically, he just doesn't like dressage," Gifford said.

Now sponsored by J and E Sedgwick and SDX Business Systems, she had her early

career shaped by the Crawley and Horsham Pony Club. From there, she was selected for the British junior team. Her record as a junior and young rider, trained by the brilliant Gill Watson, is formidable: a team gold in 1987, a team gold and individual

bronze in 1988 and team silver in 1989.

The latter should have been team gold too. Gifford's stop-watch broke on the roads and tracks phase and she incurred 20 time penalties. This is a mistake which still rankles. "I couldn't believe I'd done it. I felt I had let the team down."

It was these "character-building experiences" which helped her to make an effortless transition to senior competition.

"When you're in the Young Riders you learn to cope with pressure, but at the same time you're looked after. I've never heard Gill raise her voice but she knows how to get the best out of each rider." Although Badminton is not a team event, the pressure is intense. No other event, outside the Olympics and world championships, has an atmosphere to match it.

Gifford will never forget approaching the famous lake fence for the first time. "It was totally overwhelming. When you turn the corner all you see is the people. You have to blot them out and concentrate on the fence."

Surprisingly, she feels the rain-soaked conditions last year helped her. "I was lucky to have two older horses who were small and nippy. Smithstown Lad is one-paced which means I don't have to take a pull at fences. If the going is very good this week I won't be able to make up as much ground as I did last year."

She will walk the course four times. Three times with her mother and once by herself. She feels more wary this year. "I didn't know what to expect last time as it was my first attempt. Now I know what's coming." If there is a fence which bothers her unduly she will discuss it with another competitor. Event riders are famously helpful to one another.

Lucinda Green, who won the first of her six Badminton titles in 1973 on her "Pony Club horse", Be Fair, is one of the riders Gifford often turns to for advice.

She may well be consulting her this week over the best route through the lake. Last year Gifford was one of several riders who incurred 20 penalties for "crossing her tracks" coming out of the water. Gifford admits to being "more ambitious" this year.

Fourth place with Smithstown Lad at Burghley last September and good performances with both horses this spring have made finishing in the top ten a realistic aim.

But that is not all that is at stake. The long list for the European championships will be announced on May 17. This year, Gifford should be ready for the call.

Boardman triumphs with help from his friends

By PETER BRYAN

TEAMWORK, the essence of road racing, and a captain who has earned his overall lead were the classic ingredients behind Chris Boardman's victory in the four-day Thwaites tour of Lancashire yesterday.

The Olympic track pursuit champion, who took the lead in the 273-mile race on Saturday with first victory in a road race stage and then a short hill climb, had been well protected by his North Wirral team colleagues the following day, when again there were two races, as he maintained his advantage.

From the first day's stage it had been Boardman, an amateur, and his squad against Britain's professionals, as it was in 1991 when he was again the victor.

This year's win was no easier. With a 61-second advantage over the field at the start of the 93-mile loop of Chorley yesterday, Boardman had no guaranteed armchair ride to the finish. When he punctured his rear wheel after 45 miles his professional rivals attacked the stricken leader, but Boardman's team-mate, Jon Walshaw, gave his captain his wheel.

Boardman, now having to chase with the help of others in his team who waited for him, finally bridged the gap to the main bunch who, in turn, were trying to pull back ten leaders. That bid was unsuccessful and the stage was taken by Dave Williams, who had gained a second place on stage four.

Boardman's victory would have given him automatic entry into Britain's team for the 1,150-mile Milk Race later this month. But last night he confirmed he was not interested in selection. "I have other things in mind," said Boardman, referring to his intensive preparation for an overseas attempt on the world one-hour track record held by the legendary Francesco Moser, of Italy.

RESULTS: Sixth stage (93 miles): 1, D Williams (NI) 1hr 30min 36sec; 2, B Ludwell (Sussex); 3, G Horner (Easton C of E); same time: Final overall: 1, C Boardman (NI) 4hr 43min 11hr 05min 15sec; 2, R Holden (Nelson-Frost); 3, J Clay (Team Grange), Time 1hr 30min.

A strong field has gathered for the Tour of Romandy, starting in Geneva today. Miguel Indurain, the world No.1, from Spain, Claudio Chiappucci, of Italy, Rolf Sørensen, of Denmark, Stephen Roche, of Ireland, and last year's winner, Andy Hampsten, of the United States, will all be taking part.

Commercial Union breezes to head of fleet

By BARRY PICKTHALL

RICHARD Merriweather and his crew on Commercial Union stole a march on their rivals in the British Steel Challenge yesterday after finding a breeze through the Doldrums Group 4 Securitas, skippered by Mike Golding, the previous leader, ran out of wind along with British Steel 11 on their course 200 miles to the west. As a result, the 35 miles that had divided the top five yachts when they crossed the Equator on Sunday, has stretched to 62.

For Merriweather, who replaced Will Sutherland as skipper of Commercial Union at Rio, this was the first time he had crossed the Equator and he was suitably baptised by King Neptune, along with Yvonne Taylor and Dennis Skillicorn. The time-honoured ceremony failed to slow them down, for though the winds continually bored the compass, it never desisted them.

Rob Haine, a crewman aboard British Steel 11, which slipped to fourth yesterday, 26 miles behind Nuclear Electric, reported that the Doldrums are living up to their reputation. "It remains unbelievably hot and humid with all tasks below decks hard to achieve," he said. "The frequent showers makes it even harder to keep the boat venti-

lated." Golding, whose Group 4 crew has to make up eight hours on Nuclear Electric if it is to win this race overall, also spoke of the Doldrums.

"We are only too well aware of the importance of this frustrating part of the race," he said. "We are now in the infamous Doldrums and our strategy cards have been played. It now remains to be seen which yacht breaks through first. With the racing so tight, this will have a profound effect on the final result—both overall and on this final leg."

LEADING POSITIONS (at 1400 GMT yesterday, with miles to Southampton): 1, Commercial Union (R Merriweather), 2,912; 2, Group 4 Securitas (M Golding), 2,941; 3, Nuclear Electric (J Christensen), 2,941; 4, British Steel 11 (R Taylor), 2,989; 5, Pride of Wexford (R MacCallum), 3,074; 6, Puma Polaris (P Phillips), 3,002; 7, Coopers & Lybrand (V Cherry), 3,024; 8, Hebridean Lady (P Gosnell), 3,028; 9, Intersport (P Joffe), 3,052; 10, Heath Insurance (A Donovan), seen.

Information supplied by BT. Dolphin, the British Whitbread yacht sailed by a team of youth and disabled sailors, took line honours in her first

race by leading the fleet from almost the outset in the Royal Ocean Racing Club's (RORC) Cervantes Trophy race. The cross-Channel race from the Solent attracted a record 94 yachts for the first RORC event of the season.

Thick fog at Cowes forced a three-hour delay at the start and gave the fleet a tricky start against a flooding tide which led to a number of yachts running aground before clearing the Solent. Once out in the Channel, Matthew Humphries, whose Youth Project team recently merged with Dolphin's original crew of disabled sailors, soon had his Whitbread Round the World Race entry, charging away from the fleet on a fast downwind leg to France, and finished with an average speed of more than nine knots.

RESULTS: Class 1: 1, Maid of Ulster (Merriweather), 5, Teamwork (C Plumb), 2, Jackdaw (D Watson), Class 2: 1, Pelican (T Mitchell), 2, Whiskey Romeo (P Smith), 3, Windmill (R Riddick), Class 3: 1, Clouds (V West), 2, Korymbos (C Smith), 3, Oliva Arco IV (R Hawkins).

Baines batting for record

By ROBERT KIRLEY

IN SEPTEMBER 1947, Ted Williams, of the Boston Red Sox, reached base 16 times in a row. Nearly 46 years later, Harold Baines is threatening that astonishing major-league baseball record.

Baines, of the Baltimore Orioles, who has reached base in 12 consecutive plate appearances, will have a chance to equal or surpass Williams's streak against the Minnesota Twins in Minneapolis tonight.

Baines had three hits and two walks on Sunday, and his last hit, a two-out single in the ninth inning, knocked in Brady Anderson for a 4-3 win over the Kansas City Royals. Baltimore earned their fourth victory in five games as they continued to fight their way out of a slump. Breaking Williams's record would make Baines one of the biggest stories of the season. Williams, the last man to hit for a 400

average in a season, 401 in 1941, is regarded as one of the best hitters in history.

Led by Barry Bonds, the San Francisco Giants beat the Montreal Expos 4-3 in 11 innings on Sunday and took sole possession of the National League West division lead. The Giants and the Houston Astros had shared first place for five games, but the Giants won their sixth in a row as the Astros lost 6-2 to the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Roger Clemens struck out 11 in eight innings on Saturday as the Boston Red Sox beat the California Angels 3-1. Boston won 4-3 on Sunday and share first place in the American League East with the Detroit Tigers.

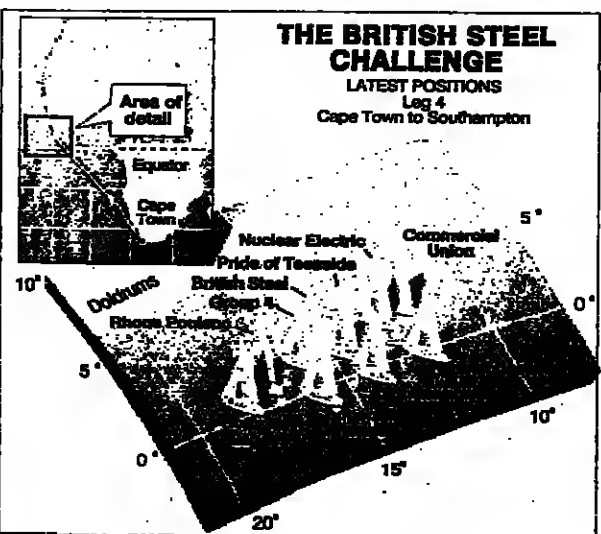
Ryne Sandberg had three hits, including a run-producing single in a three-run third inning, as the Chicago Cubs beat the Cincinnati Reds 4-3. Sandberg had managed just

one hit in seven at-bats in his first two games after missing the first 21 outings of the season with a broken bone in his left hand.

The Colorado Rockies beat the Florida Marlins 2-1 in Miami to level the season series at three games apiece between expansion teams. New teams usually spend at least a season in last place, but so far, neither National League newcomer is suffering that fate.

Dwight Gooden, of the New York Mets, pitched his second complete game of the season and doubled home a run to end his club's seven-game losing streak with a 3-2 victory over the San Diego Padres. Gooden missed a turn last week when a team-mate, Vince Coleman, whacked his shoulder while practising his golf swing in the clubhouse.

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LAW

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LAW REPORT 31

Not forgotten: Robert Maxwell will be long remembered by the pensioners he left behind, some of whom are shown protesting about his raids on their funds



A great money-go-round

Eighteen months after the Mirror tycoon's death, former staff are still fighting for pensions, David Conn reports

Tomorrow it will be 18 months since Robert Maxwell mysteriously drowned in the Atlantic. Since then, the wreckage of his business empire has kept lawyers and courts extremely busy. The prosecution of his sons, Kevin and Ian, for conspiracy to defraud, and three other defendants, is awaiting transfer to the Crown Court, expected next month.

Dozens of High Court actions have been brought, mainly against banks, as a result of months of investigation by the liquidators and administrators into the tangled web of transactions.

One of the Maxwell public companies, Maxwell Communications Corporation (MCC), is in administration; the other, Mirror Group Newspapers, is trading as usual. More than 400 private companies controlled by Robert Maxwell are in administration. One limited company, chaired by Robert Maxwell, is in liquidation: Bishopsgate Investment Management (BIM), which was responsible for investing eight employee pension funds and from which £249 million remains missing, money used by Robert Maxwell in a vain attempt to keep the empire afloat.

Last week, the administrators and receivers of the Maxwell companies started to give further testimony to the House of Commons social security select committee. Hearings will go on for the next month. The committee first reported last December that £34 mil-

lion had been spent in professional fees, compared with a meagre recovery of assets and lack of distribution to the pension funds. This time, the committee will probably find that many more millions have been spent, with little further recovery and still no distribution to the pension funds.

The accountants and lawyers argue that the dealings were so irregular and complex — and involved such a disregard for the rules which require companies to be run independently — that unravelling the mess cannot be other than hugely expensive.

In his published evidence to the committee, Mark Homan, of Price Waterhouse, the MCC administrators, said that many of the Maxwell companies "shared one treasury department", which moved money around regardless of rules. As the debt of his empire ran out of control, Robert Maxwell took money from one source to prop up another.

The Serious Fraud Office alleges that Robert Maxwell saw the pension funds as a pool of funds that could be plundered and that BIM was set up in 1987 to control them. Irregular BIM transactions included a company's failure to pay money to it, the purchase of properties from Maxwell companies at inflated prices and the deposit of assets with banks as security for loans to other Maxwell com-

panies. Probably more than 100 City law firms have been instructed, either by the liquidators in trying to recover assets, or by the banks in trying to keep them, by the Maxwell brothers and other directors charged or under investigation, or by the pension funds, each of which has separate solicitors. Kate Buckley, of Allen and Overy, solicitors for Arthur Andersen, administra-

tors of the private companies, said she would be "amazed to find a firm which is not involved in the affair".

The select committee has barely disguised its suspicion that the scandal has been good for solicitors' firms, many of which have been reaping during the recession on their litigation departments to bring in fees. Since many parties are fighting over the same assets, litigation has already started, against the former directors, alleging negligence or breach of duty, re-

sulting in Kevin Maxwell's bankruptcy, and against banks, claiming that they "knowingly" received funds improperly. The potential for further actions is enormous, and the parties show no signs of settling.

The affair has produced new law in a number of areas: last week alone the Court of Appeal delivered two judgments on the dividing line between criminal law and insolvency investigations. This level of court activity, according to Kate Buckley, is "good for the public interest but not for the creditors".

The Maxwell pensioners, the most endangered of creditors, have formed an action group to try to gain control of their own fate. Many more millions need to be recovered to cover future payments to retiring employees. Any actions by the liquidators will probably be vigorously defended by any bank alleged to be improperly holding money.

According to Ken Trench, the action group chairman, the only substantial recovery since June 1992 has been from National Westminster, which voluntarily returned £27 million worth of shares that belonged to BIM, only 11 per cent of the total "black hole" that is missing.

The select committee backed the pensioners in its last report, calling for the appointment of a mediator. Although

this remains a remote hope, the pensioners are pinning their faith on an action to end all actions. A 1980 European directive, they claim, required governments to pass legislation to protect the wages and pensions of companies that go bust. Counsel said it was arguable that Britain had failed to comply.

The group asked the government to take the question to Brussels as a test case. The government refused, forcing the group to sue. The pensioners are trying to raise £150,000 to bring the action. Robin Ellison, the group's solicitor, sums up the feelings of his clients in this legal maelstrom. What is needed, he says, is to "get everyone around a table, if you can find one big enough, and have some great and good officer sort out a group settlement".

The select committee, after hearing the evidence, is likely to agree.

Lords in a land of hope and folly

Are servants of the Crown beyond the law? Sir William Wade, QC, on a vital appeal

The government next week launches its appeal to the House of Lords in the Zairean asylum case. The case arose after a Zairean man brought judicial review proceedings against the Home Secretary for refusing him political asylum.

The man was already at Heathrow while the case was being heard, and the judge had understood the Home Office to have given an undertaking that he would not be removed pending the review. However, about the time the undertaking was given, he was put on a flight to Paris and from there transferred back to Zaire.

The Crown's servants, on the other hand, could always there was no court before which he could be brought. Sometimes the Crown would submit voluntarily to be judged in its own courts, but its basic immunity remained intact until the Crown Proceedings Act of 1947.

The Crown's servants, on the other hand, could always do wrong, and it was their lack of immunity that made it possible to postpone reform for so long. When in 1765 the Secretary of State, Lord Halifax, sent his minions to arrest John Wilkes and to ransack his house, pleading "state necessity", Wilkes was awarded heavy damages both against the minions and against Halifax himself. This personal liability became the foundation of the rule of law.

The Crown's immunity was also neutralised in an important way by Parliament's practice of granting powers to ministers personally in their own names rather than to the Crown itself. If powers are given directly to the Crown, as in the European Communities Act,

1972, these attract immunity. The Crown Proceedings Act made the Crown liable for wrongs done by its servants, like any other employer, but it provided that against the Crown itself there should be no injunctions but only declaratory orders to the same effect. It also contained an innocent-looking subsection (which now lies at the heart of the argument) providing that no injunction or order should be made against an officer of the Crown if the effect would be "to give any relief against the Crown which could not have been obtained in proceedings against the Crown". Ministers and officials remained under the old regime of personal accountability to the law, but not according to the House of Lords.



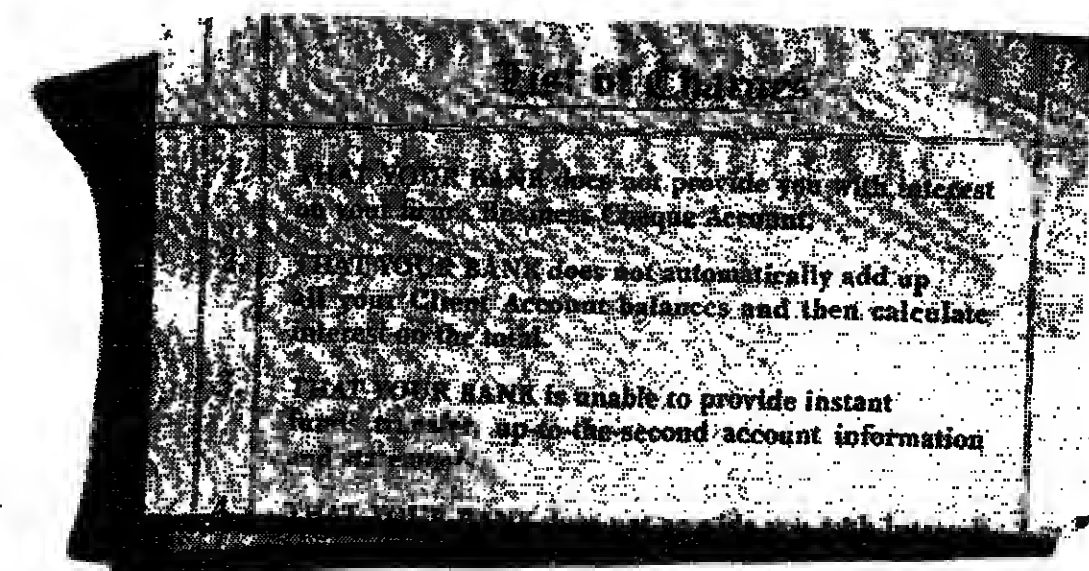
Kenneth Baker: in contempt?

In 1989, in the *Factortame* case, in which the Merchant Shipping Act of the previous year was partially overruled by EC law, the law lords held that the subsection forbade the granting of an injunction against a minister exercising powers given to him in his own name and against all his officials likewise: that officers of the Crown, acting as such, were immune from suit before the Crown Proceedings Act, and that the act intended to continue that immunity. Yet how can the act have intended to continue an immunity that never existed?

Two judges in the Zairean asylum case held that the relationship between officers of the Crown and the courts can only be one of trust. Instead of the rule of law, it would be the rule of hope: "trust the executive". This revolutionary view was firmly rejected by the majority of the Court of Appeal as "a black day for the rule of law". They held that the House of Lords' judgment could not have the sweeping effect claimed by the Crown lawyers. The law lords can now resolve the problems they have created.

Under the feudal system each lord dispensed justice to his own tenants, but the king was nobody's tenant and

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INNS AND OUTS

Wedded to the job

TWO barristers married on Saturday at Temple Church have had to forgo their honeymoon in the call of duty: both are involved in a fraud case that started last week and is set down for three months. Spenser Rodney Hilliard and Frances Hindle, both in the chambers of Kenneth Wheeler at Lamb Buildings, were planning to go to Italy.

Asked how they had taken the news of the trial, in which the groom is defending with his new wife acting as his junior, Gary Goodger, one of the clerks, said: "You can imagine: natural reactions. But at least they will benefit financially from it."

Immunity plea

ANTHONY Scrivenor, QC, the former Bar chairman, has called for an overhaul of the law on public interest immunity (PII) and the scrapping of the current Attorney General's guidelines, which caused such a furore in the Matrix Churchill case. (Lord Justice Scott today opens an enquiry into the affair.)

In a lecture last week at City University, where he is honorary visiting professor, he urged a new, stricter test, in which the courts would refuse to order disclosure of documents on PII grounds only in exceptional circumstances — where disclosure would affect the administra-

tion of justice, safety of the state or jeopardise the functioning of government.

Logical choice THE Law Society is preening quietly after the appointment of Kamlesh Bahl, one of its younger council members, as chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission. Ms Bahl, 36, who works as company secretary for Data Logic, a computer software com-

pany, was picked from more than 80 applicants. She was the model for Usha Gupta in *The Archers*.

Hopeless case THE local councils that lost £60 million as a result of the collapse of BCCI have given up hope of winning govern-

ment compensation. Norman Lamont, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has refused compensation, despite a parliamentary select committee report blaming the Bank of England.

SCRIVENOR

Bar school to tackle racism

THE announcement that Dame Jocelyn Barrow, the deputy chairman of the Broadcasting Standards Council, is to head an enquiry into complaints of racism at the Bar's law school, has been well received. Her appointment gives weight to what could be one of the most delicate investigations for the Bar at a time when its whole entrance policy is under scrutiny.

In the wake of recent findings that the failure rate of ethnic-minority students on the Bar's finals course was three times higher than for white students — a disparity that cannot be explained when judged against their degree qualifications — Dame Jocelyn plans to look at each of 80 student complaints and at the broader question of equality policy on the course.

She says: "The policies must not only be fair but be seen to be so by all current and potential students. We shall look beyond the individual cases to equal opportunities policy and to whether measures are necessary to provide a better type of education for students." The Bar's recent equality code made general statements, she adds, but a "specific equality code applying to the Bar finals course might be needed, covering the way the course is handled and interviews for assessment carried out".

Dame Jocelyn, who was vice-chairman from 1964-9 of the Campaign against Racial Discrimination, which largely led to the race discrimination laws, expects her team of four academics and social scientists

to bring out an interim report by August 1993 and a final report by March 1994. Meanwhile, the Commission for Racial Equality, which is holding its own formal enquiry into whether the Bar exams are discriminatory, is to delay publication until after Dame Jocelyn's interim report.

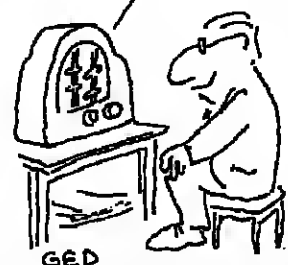
As for selection procedures, the Bar has now set a three-year time limit for its new entry system to restrict numbers entering the profession.

From September next year, the so-called "open door" policy ends and numbers on the finals course will be severely cut from the current total of 1,100 places to 650. The move, which will bring student numbers more into line with available pupilages (trainee places in chambers), comes in the face of a rising tide of applications, likely to total almost 2,000 for 1993-4.

Of those who make it to pupillage, there is a further hurdle: securing a tenancy. Only 350 make it each year and obtain a permanent seat in chambers.

The Bar's three-year limit on its course comes after the criticism from Sir Bryan Cusberg, the director-general of the Office of Fair Trading, that the proposed new entry system is a "significantly anti-competitive" quota system. Meanwhile, a full-scale review has started of its education and training policies — what Anthony Thornton, QC, calls "going right back to the drawing board".

FRANCES GIBB



GED



Garry Kasparov, left, and Nigel Short, right: a game of kings, bishops, knights and lawyers

Making the right moves

Whatever the future of world chess, the events of the last couple of months will be remembered as a watershed in the game's development. Lawyers have played a critical role in shaping the result.

The deal that finalised the details of the Garry Kasparov-Nigel Short confrontation was signed in the offices of Simon Olswang & Co, which look on to Marble Arch. One day a plaque may be erected. Ironically, the Olswang team was gloriously ignorant of the game. "My colleagues, Lizbeth Savill, Russel Shear, and I were virtually the only people who didn't play chess," Simon Olswang confessed. "As well as the players themselves, it seemed that everyone else involved in the negotiations, apart from us, were grandmasters. Maybe the fact that we were a bit detached from chess enabled us to make our particular contributions."

Perhaps the most significant ingredient of the Kasparov-Short encounter is the use of technology to allow chess fans worldwide to take part vicariously by predicting the forthcoming moves. It was because Olswang has expertise in the technology and entertainment areas that the firm was originally brought into the transaction by Telechess and Teleworld, two of the

Lawyers have played a key role in the negotiations for the Kasparov-Short confrontation. Edward Fennell reports



sponsors. However, the complexity of the deal and the number of interested parties meant that the negotiations ended up like a game of three-dimensional chess on a five-sided chess board. Short was represented by Jacques & Lewis and Kasparov by his agent, Andrew Page. Both players were represented by a New York lawyer, Robert Rice, of Milbank Tweed, in his role as adviser to (and now first commissioner of) the newly formed Professional Chess Association. The Times retained Townleys, the sports' sponsorship specialist. The fact that Townleys and Olswang for the sponsors and Jacques & Lewis and Rice for the players were able to establish a rapport at an early stage was a sign that no professional rivalry was going to prevent a deal. Nonetheless, there was a frenzied and surreal feel to some of the late-

night lawyers' negotiations, and some of the moves were telephoned from remote locations, while others were played at lightning speed in Olswang's boardroom.

What made it all workable was the basic good humour and co-operation of the various parties. Chess, of course, is the adversarial game par excellence, but that did not come through in the negotiations because nobody wanted the game to end in an impasse. Nor would a checkmate result have done anyone any good given that all the parties are now committed to working closely with each other for months to come.

Mr Olswang said: "Because of the many issues and interests involved, it was one of those unusual occasions when, as lawyers, we felt we were making a really useful contribution. We thought

that as a profession, we had added value to what had been negotiated. Our contribution and that of the other lawyers involved — notably Townleys for The Times — had, I think, made, I believe, a difference to the outcome."

Having acted for Telechess and Teleworld in the early stages, the role of Olswang subsequently extended to fronting the whole of the sponsors' side. "With so many points circulating, the important thing for us to do was to keep a tight grip on the essential issue of the rights," Mr Olswang said. "We had to be very clear in our understanding of which rights must be retained by the various parties, and which could be negotiated. It was then possible to identify where there was room for manoeuvre. Above all, we had to relate the zeal and passion of what was being proposed to the real world of commerce, and translate the vision into straightforward commercial terms."

With the negotiations successfully concluded, Mr Olswang says that, to his surprise, he has now become addicted to reading the newspaper chess columns. "I'm not sure I understand very much of what I read," he says, "but somehow I've become hooked. I'll certainly watch the games with fascination."

On trial: the BBC's TV debate on rape, violence and crime

Can you stomach the law at breakfast?

Putting the law on trial is the aim of *Verdict*, a new six-part BBC television series. But the law is proving a difficult defendant and the prosecution's case is often confused and occasionally unsound.

Whether a 30-minute slot at 9.05am on a Thursday is an adequate forum for serious legal debate is itself debatable. Each week, "expert witnesses" testify before a "jury" of six men and six women and a studio audience. The audience votes on such issues as the age of criminal responsibility, "date rape", children "divorcing" their parents under the Children Act, and the law of provocation.

Each "verdict" will be sent to the Home Secretary, says Will Hanrahan, the deviser and presenter of the series, who got the idea at a dinner party. They were locked in a heated discussion on the law of provocation, which will be on trial in the fifth programme. Hanrahan believes that

the law should be more charitable towards female victims of domestic violence who are provoked, after lengthy abuse, to kill their husbands in what they regard as self-defence.

The first programme tried to make a case for abolishing the concept of an arbitrary "age of criminal responsibility", currently set at 10.

"There are nine-year-olds who persistently commit crimes", alleged a police chief, "and the criminal justice system should have a chance to examine them — even if they're only cautioned."

Roger Ede, the secretary of the Law Society's criminal law committee, says: "Some police force areas have a caution rate of 100 per cent for those up to 14, and of those who do get before a court more than half receive a discharge. Maybe one should be talking of formalising this process rather than leaving it to the inconsistencies of different police forces."

The majority of "joy riders" and other offending juveniles are above the age of criminal responsibility: it is their sentencing, the *Verdict* jury seemed to feel, that should come under review. But



Will Hanrahan: offering an alternative to sugary pap

they voted, by the necessary 10 to 2, to "scrap" the age of criminal responsibility. Paul Wilson, a member of the Law Society, says he would have explained that "the local authority can make application to the court at any age if it feels that there's a necessary course of action".

Some considered it strong stuff for daytime television, but it went ahead despite protests

One question was even more ambiguous. The jury was asked to decide whether, when it comes to rape, the law should take a woman at her word?

It was explained to the jury that "the law in the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 1976 now says a woman has to prove that she meant 'no' and that she got the message". They were told that "90 per cent of rape cases do not end in a conviction".

A film showed a "date rape" from the victim's point of view and then from her attacker's. Unsensational though it was, some considered it strong stuff for daytime television, but Hanrahan went ahead with the broadcast despite protests.

James Pickles, the retired judge, defended the law as it stands and a man's right to "the

thrill of the chase". Sarah Maguire, a barrister representing the Rights of Women group, which offers legal advice to women on matrimonial and domestic issues and on rape, perhaps surprisingly, supported him.

"I think it is absolutely right that the witness should be tested", she agreed, "but not on whether she was wearing underclothes." She would like the law changed, "so that a woman's previous sexual history is not considered relevant".

Elizabeth Woodcraft, the barrister who is chair of the Rights of Women, says: "The latest Home Office study shows that one in four rape cases that come to court get a conviction — but that perhaps only a tenth of women who have been raped report the crime. Date rape is a concept that doesn't exist in law, so this is going to be a difficult programme to assess, just as the one on children 'divorcing' their

parents will be, for the same reason. It has always been possible to apply for a residence order enabling them to live elsewhere. But I think it's an interesting idea, putting the law on trial. It's important that people feel able to question the law. And they have picked the hot topics which the legal profession is talking about."

Verdict is still searching for a law to put on trial for its sixth programme. Bernard George, a principal lecturer at the College of Law, would suggest "the law of evidence in criminal trials" — which he believes utterly perverse.

"A trial should be to get at the truth, not to play by some ritual rules. Why shouldn't we allow the jury to know of previous convictions of the defendant? If we're going to trust ordinary members of the public to make these decisions, it seems odd that we should keep them in ignorance."

Mr Hanrahan hopes that he has successfully broken the unwritten law which says that morning television audiences should be fed just sugary pap.

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OPERA REVIEWS: Rodney Milnes on stagings of *La Gioconda* and *Berenice* that are triumphs of style over substance

Never mind the quality, feel the wit

As Sir Noel Coward remarked in rhyme, "The plot of *La Gioconda* is apt to wander" — a somewhat optimistic judgment, in fact, it does not even get out of the front door and on to the pavement. The characters in Arrigo Boito's 1876 adaptation of Victor Hugo are water-thin cardboard. The humble self-sacrificing street-singer of the ode is the silliest of

The orchestra and chorus lavish as much care on it as if it were *Otello*

being better done than it was by Opera North at the Grand, in Leeds, on Saturday — it knocked a staging I saw in Turin some years back into a gondolier's hat.

This was the third of this year's regional opera productions sponsored by the Peter Moores Foundation, and it was canny of Opera North to propose a work that has not been staged here professionally since 1929 (it is regularly aired in Italy, and has always been popular in America).

It is cast from strength, performed with total conviction — not least by the orchestra and chorus under Oliver von Dohnányi, who lavish as much care on it as if it were *Otello* — and designed and directed with characteristic flair by Philip Prowse.

Prowse simply (and rightly) ignores the manifold improbabilities of the Venice-based action. His humble street-singer turns up at the Ca' d'oro ball (with blind marmalade in tow) in a sumptuous black-lace ballgown, and her shack on the Giudecca looks like one of the ritzier brothels of Rio de Janeiro. His blessedly non-representational costumes range from Miller-mafioso to Wilde (the ball scene looks like *Una donna di alcun'importanza*), via some suspiciously hearty nuns at whose footwear one looks nervously. They could just be German paratroopers. Seriously — or rather, not seriously — it all looks wonderful.

Rosalind Plowright, with her commanding presence and aristocratic

profile, is not the likeliest of humble street-singers, but then — perhaps wisely — Pochiell and Boito never allow us to witness her plying her trade. Yet Plowright is nothing if not a prima donna, and her glittering, steely spinto soprano is in pristine state.

She is matched decibel for decibel by Edmund Barham's Enzo, whose heroic, steady tone is allied to an elegance of phrase that shows he has



You shall go to the ball: Catherine Wyn-Rogers as Cieca (left), mother of Rosalind Plowright's *La Gioconda*

learned profitably from the example of the great tenors of the past.

Sally Burgess, looking scrumptious in a series of Prowse's loveliest frocks, is in superb voice as Laura; Clifford Grant — Goudall's Hagen, no less — does what he can with Alvise; Catherine Wyn-Rogers is a dignified, near-credible Cieca; and Keith Latham has a whale of a time as the villainous Barnaba — his enthusiastic disrobing in preparation for having

his evil way with *Gioconda*, dead or alive, at curtain-fall is a moment of entrancing force. The opera is sung in good, clear Italian. *The Dance of the Hours*, the best music in the score, is out for reasons of economy.

The audience absolutely loved it, as will audiences at all later performances. But if I were as rich as Peter Moores, I would spend my money trying to stop people performing *Gioconda*.

It concerns the efforts of the Roman ambassador to force a politically advantageous marriage on the eponymous Queen of Egypt, who has a mind of her own and more than one man on it.

Far from misrepresenting the ambassador's discomfiture, the running gag of the opera might have been played for laughs when the libretto was new in 1709, but they sit uneasily with the standard procedures of opera seria 300 years later.

I could imagine the piece being played as high, neo-Wildean comedy — *Berenice* is not unlike Handel's first great operatic intriguer, Agrippina — but that would leave the serious moments dangerously

Music for a royal squib

To see one Handel opera performed complete may be regarded as good fortune: to see two on successive evenings looks like fanaticism. But it was instructive to go straight from the ENO *Arturo* to the Cambridge Handel Opera Group's *Berenice*. Chalk and gorgonzola could not be more different.

Whatever you thought of David Alden's *Arturo*, it was a bold attempt to marry Handel to the 20th-century theatre: in Cambridge there was a whiff of aspic.

Andrew Jones conducted with a spring in his step and ensured that the recitatives zipped along with authentically shortened cadences.

There is, of course, some wonderful music amongst the falterings. I especially enjoyed the simile aria invoking a bee (strings buzzing merrily underneath), and there is one extraordinary aria for *Berenice* when she gets her come-uppance, with oboe imitating voice in free form for all the world like a dry run for the Lucia mad scene.

This long, elaborate scena, unlike anything else in Handel, was most beautifully sung by Ann Mackay, who throughout gave a performance of great style and wit.

There were two first-rate counter-tenors in Jonathan Peter Kenny and Mark Chambers, both phenomenally accurate in passage-work as assorted suitors, and Kay Jordan sang the man who eventually gets *Berenice* with beguiling musicianship and sweetness of tone. Lynette Alcantara's agreeably resolute mezzo was heard to advantage as *Berenice*'s equally strong-willed sister.

Musical and vocal standards were high — the evening was enjoyable as well as instructive.

Handel's first great operatic intriguer, Agrippina — but that would leave the serious moments dangerously

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BROADWAY THEATRE REVIEW

Stormy solo voyage round a father

Holly Hill sees Lynn Redgrave coming to terms with her father in a new one-woman show

It is 1964, and Noel Coward's rehearsals for the National Theatre revival of *Hay Fever* are not going smoothly. Lynn Redgrave is playing the flapper Jackie with a lisp, causing Coward to muse: "The little Redgrave girl is very clever, but does she have a speech impediment?"

"The Redgrave girl" and "the Smith girl" (Maggie, vamping with a cigarette holder as Myra) are giving star Edith Evans the vapours. Evans won't go on for the first performance — until Coward mentions how good "the Smith girl" is as her understudy.

Some may have heard the backstage anecdotes before, but audiences at *Shakespeare for My Father* can have the fun of watching Redgrave catch the voices, movements, mannerisms and spirits of all the dramatic personae. In the course of her one-woman show, she plays most members of her own family, illustrious colleagues, a few humble folk, and nearly 20 Shakespeare characters. All very nicely, and some splendidly.

Pausing at Broadway's Helen Hayes Theatre on an American tour, *Shakespeare for My Father* shows off Redgrave as both actress and writer. Her theme is her lifelong search for the "heart, centre, essence, the mystery" of her father. A photograph of Sir Michael Redgrave as Antony forms the back wall of the stage: a carved wood chair and two trunks of costumes and props are the set.

Dressed in black shirt and trousers, Redgrave uses the simple trappings to evoke many times and places. She imitates Laurence Olivier announcing her sister Vanessa's birth during curtain calls when Sir Michael was playing Laertes to Olivier's Hamlet, but searches the long entry in her father's journal on the day of her own birth, finding that he died at the Garrick Club but did not even mention her arrival.

Young Lynn was afraid of her father, not only because he behaved at home according to



Bringing up father: Lynn Redgrave exorcises her ghosts

which play he was in at the time (jolly only if it was a comedy), but because "his face expresses everything on screen and on stage, but at home he is hidden behind his face, impenetrable."

Redgrave is endearing as a gawky, shy child — so grateful

'His face expresses everything on stage, but at home he is hidden'

that Vanessa invites her to join in a game, even when it involves Vanessa playing the American president, brother Corin the British prime minister, and Lynn the president's dog. One of the show's engaging cumulative effects is watching the young Lynn emerge from playing third fiddle among siblings to become the most effervescent Redgrave.

She introduces the *Complete Works of Shakespeare* that her father gave her in 1953 to signal the correlation of her family narrative with Shakespearean speeches and scenes. Early on, she illustrates the closeness she felt to her

nanny with a rendering of "Oh Honey Niece! What News," playing a luminous Juliet and a lovably cranky Nurse. Relating the childhood trauma of infuriating Sir Michael launches her into "What shall Cordelia do?"

Redgrave returns several times to *King Lear*, most touchingly when she is walking with her mortally ill father and goes into the Cordelia-Lear reunion scene. She comments: "I still remember the hugs we learnt to give each other when my childhood had been left behind and his second one was upon him."

Sir Michael's personality remains elusive, but his legend as one of the great actor-knights is enlarged. Among other memorable story threads is that of the Redgrave grandfather Roy, an actor known as the "Dramatic Cock of the North" until his emigration to Australia, where his grave was eventually found and given a headstone by Lynn and her husband John Clark (who commendably directs *Shakespeare for My Father*).

As Redgrave notes, the family has a fifth generation onstage now that she, Vanessa and Corin have daughters who are actors. With both her and Natasha Richardson (*Anna Christie*) on Broadway this season, New York theatre-goers are celebrating the Redgraves.

CONCERT REVIEWS: The classics at their most popular, the moderns at their most obscure

As the rampant and not entirely pedigreed foliage in my garden tells me, summer is most definitely in town. To celebrate the first day of the loveliest month of the year, the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra roused me out of my usual Saturday morning torpor with the first promenade concert of the year.

This was nothing to do with Henry Wood or the BBC, you understand, but everything to do with hundreds of eager young people in shorts and T-shirts, happy to spend £2.50 in order to stand pressed shoulder-to-shoulder in the stuffily hot arena and lend the keenest ears to this year's May Day Europa Concert.

The Berlin PO takes this event to a different European city each year. Germany, Austria and Japan thought the concert — billed as this illustrious orchestra's only British appearance this year — important enough to televise live, and about 20 other countries took a recording.

The British, as opportunistic as ever, ignored it.

Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring* was the major work, and Bernard Haitink conducted it with all the edgy excitement and sensual mystery it demands.

That eerie entry of the high bassoon at the beginning signalled a reading of high

Cheap and cheery rites

Berlin PO/Haitink
Albert Hall

tension, while the wailings of woodwind choirs, the savage fanfares and barking of brass, the explosions of percussion (and particularly the report of the large drum, struck some mighty blows indeed) turned the hall for a while into a veritable cathedral for the pagan.

Faced with such a resonant acoustic, Haitink was wise in his steady pacing and careful articulation of the piece. Every detail, every subtle accompanimental throb of the strings, he made clear.

The vibrant, animal force he thus engineered was checked afterwards with the encore, a Strauss waltz as elegantly done as you could wish, with the Berliners' strings showing all

their legendary qualities, which include a sweetness noticeably less sickly than that of a certain Viennese orchestra one might name.

Before the Stravinsky we heard something else of beguiling elegance, Mozart's G major Violin Concerto, K216, in which Frank Peter Zimmermann was a wonderfully alive soloist, never allowing a single phrase to go by without investing it with individual light, colour, shape, yet also managing to make his reading feel entirely natural and instinctive.

He produces a quite lovely sound, the consequence of combining gut strings with a rather distinguished Stradivarius instrument — and understanding how to treat both.

The concert had begun with Tchaikovsky's fantasy overture *Romeo and Juliet*. I cannot tell you what the performance was like, because a man in the row behind me had seen fit to bring along a child quite obviously of too tender an age to be able to keep quiet for long.

His tactic to stop her chatter was to give her a packet of crisps, which was rather like using a nuclear warhead to quell a meltdown. Man and child, prompted by many a glare, left about four bars before the end of the work.

STEPHEN PETTITT

Meaty, beatty, big and bouncy

Since he left England for America nearly 15 years ago the conductor Raymond Leppard has been an infrequent, but always welcome, visitor to London. Next February he will return to conduct his old friends, the English Chamber Orchestra, but last Friday he brought his own orchestra over with him, and much fun, it seemed, was had by all.

Leppard is now in his fourth season as music director of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, and it is fascinating to watch the chemistry still working itself out between them. The programme could almost have been set up with that express purpose in mind.

Old and New England bounced off each other in performances of the late William Schuman's *New England Triptych* and Elgar's *Enigma Variations*.

Ironically, the former was almost more traditionally English than the latter. In particular, the central, slow movement of this disarming suite, written in homage to William Billings, the 18th-century American "primitive" composer, sounds for all the world like Vaughan Williams in Tallis mood.

Leppard has honed his orchestra's strings to a warm, willing transparency, ready for the cultivated phrasing and buoyant rhythms which are so

much his own conducting hallmark.

The band, in turn, responds to him with ebullience and sometimes bravado. The wind section is characterful, even fruity, and much enjoyed the skirling finale of the American piece, to say nothing of the witty third variation of the *Enigma*.

Their palpable energy and goodwill, which revealed itself in the relishing of every moment of dynamic contrast and alternating tension and release, seemed to make them distrustful of anything more than a passing moment of nostalgia or the elegiac in the Elgar perennial.

A little tense (and a little tested) by the quiet start of "Nimrod", they could barely wait for its ripening and restrained themselves with some difficulty during Elgar's heartfelt tribute to his cellist friend.

The orchestra's apparently extrovert, just occasionally rough-edged character, made an earthy affair of the Bruch Violin Concerto. Dmitry Sitkovetsky, the soloist, gave a broad, somewhat four-square reading of the work.

After the *Enigma* the band offered Elgar's "Wild Beasts" from *The Wand of Youth* as an encore — and then romped off.

HILARY FINCH

Empty noise-making

BBCSO/Joly
Festival Hall

There have been other times in the history of music when critics and others have felt it necessary to take up factionalist stances.

The famous Querelle des Buffons in the 1750s, which involved the relative merits of French and Italian music in Paris, springs to mind. On that occasion the French won the day, after two years of pamphleteering, on the merits of the music rather than on the force of words.

The same means ought to decide the outcome of today's equivalent debate about that school of composing we generally categorise as minimalist but should start referring to as empirist.

I, for one, am bored by its lazy, unvariegated, insensitive, complacent style. I wish that it would go away, that more value were placed on music of substance, real understanding, real beauties. But no such luck indeed, the canon of the empirist's school was increased on Thursday night, when Gavin Bryars's oratorio *The War in Heaven* received its world premiere, played and sung by the patient BBC Symphony Orchestra, Symphony Chorus and Singers under Simon Joly.

Everything has some merit,

and Bryars is assuredly a sincere and extremely pleasant man. I admire his cultish piece from the early 1970s, *Jesus Blood Never Failed Me Yet*, and would not wish to deny the good things in this daringly seamless piece. The orchestral textures are rich, sometimes indeed Scriabin-esque. Bryars's declamatory style of solo vocal writing, here delivered heroically by the soprano Sarah Leonard and the countertenor David James, ensures that Sam Shepard's pithy, colourful words are audible.

Sometimes his choruses, which set a 7th-century paraphrase of the opening texts of the Bible — perhaps unsurprisingly given the Gerontius-like flavour of the work — remind one of Elgar.

Yet against all that must be measured the plodding, 4/4 pulse, the lack of any vivid response to the text beyond the statutory "dong" when the word "bell" crops up, the directionless harmony, the dour melody, the unremitting thickness of sound, the lack of any fire in the music's belly, of

any ebb and flow, light and shade, even of something as fundamental as skilled and idiomatic exploitation of the orchestral medium.

How bored the violinists looked as they ritually scraped bows and gently twiddled fingers in the same old undemanding patterns. This is a designer language, tailored to inhibit, with its single mood and shapeless form, the flow of that vital current between ear and brain.

We should have been warned to expect this kind of work when Howard Skempton's *Lento* began the evening with its own brand of deliberate naivety. Morton Feldman could bring off this sort of thing so much more convincingly in his music one senses a spiritual intensity, an agonising over the rightness of every single note, which is absent here.

Thankfully there was an oasis in the middle of this desert, in the form of Charles Ives's *Three Places in New England*. The atmospheric resonances and exuberantly coarse blasts of this music gave the BBCSO something worthwhile and brilliantly imagined to get their teeth into.

STEPHEN PETTITT

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Capitalisation, week's change

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Political clock still ticking on future of British Coal

Philip Bassett and Ross Tieman take a close look at the difficulties facing Neil Clarke in the run-up to coal privatisation

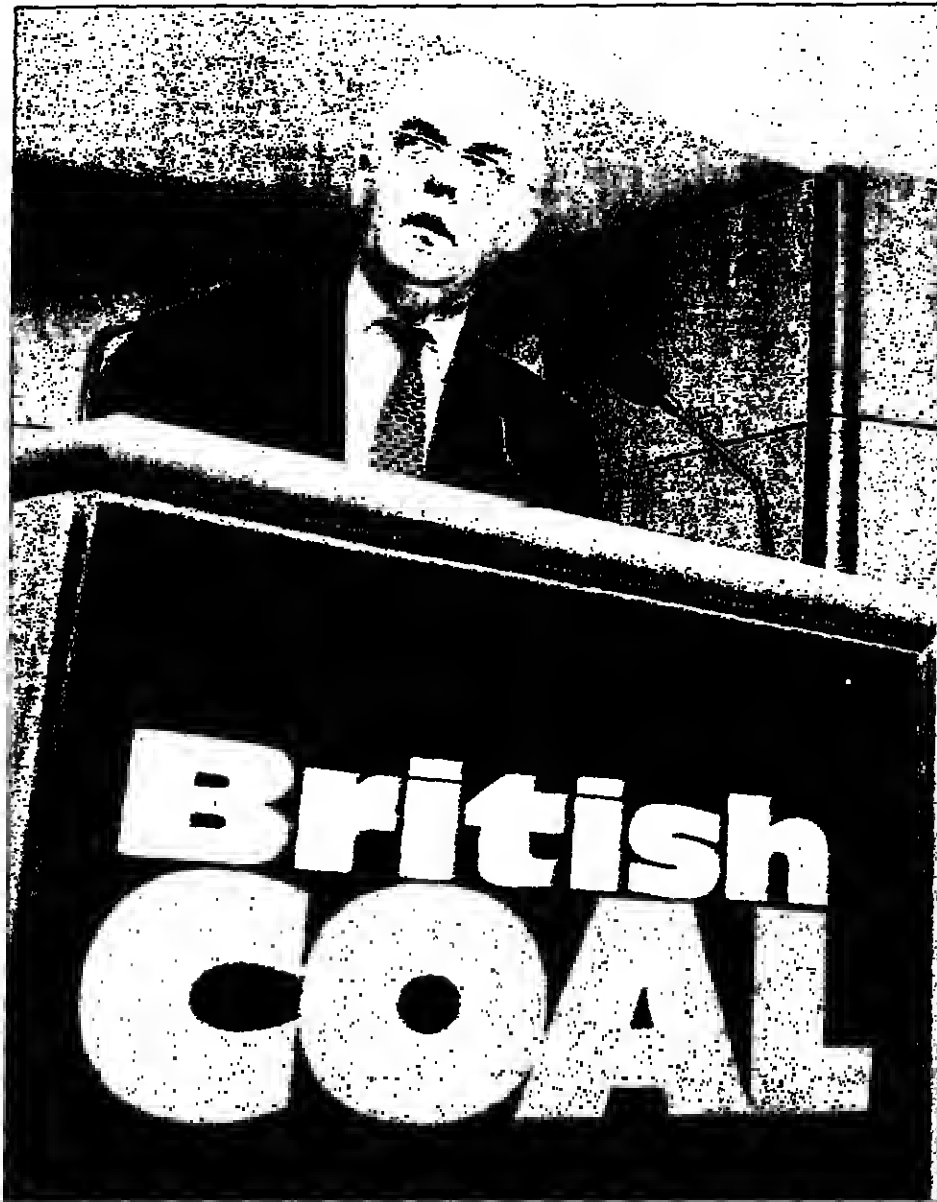
The heat is off, the cameras long gone, along with the Commons statements and the public protest marches. So Neil Clarke, British Coal chairman, can talk about the future for coal.

In the wake of the government's coal white paper, that future is clearer — though not much less bleak than last October when British Coal announced the closure of 31 pits with the loss of 30,000 jobs.

The public and political furor that erupted after the announcement, and the clutch of parliamentary and departmental enquiries which were the government's response to it, meant that for almost six months decision-making at British Coal was effectively paralysed. With no contracts for coal, no clear market, it continued to produce coal that nobody wanted, adding to massive stockpiles at the pit-heads and the power stations.

Now, though, Mr Clarke has an agenda of measures to prepare British Coal for privatisation. He has a set of objectives to address, even though some parameters, such as the scale and terms of government subsidies to support "re-privatised" pits, remain cloudy.

He identifies three overlapping and concurrent tasks. He has to deal with the licensing of more than 18 unwanted collieries, going through what will clearly be a strict process of offering them to private-sector operators, and monitoring the results. He has to oversee the "market testing" — current government jargon for examining viability — of 12 pits re-privatised by the government. And he has to reshape British Coal itself, driving up productivity at the pits, reforming



Digging deep: Neil Clarke's toughest challenge will be to cut costs at 20 core pits

working practices and lopping off a good-sized chunk of the corporation's top-heavy management structure.

Though privatisation is probably a good two years away, preparations for it are in progress. Peripheral businesses, ranging from smokeless fuel manufacture to computer services, will have to be sold. The five groups into which British Coal's collieries are bunched will have to be reformed, shedding jobs and

allowing non-operational costs, currently more than £100 million, to be halved.

Mr Clarke accepts that his toughest challenge will be to meet the white paper's requirements that British Coal cut its costs at its 20 core pits. Thousands more jobs will go as British Coal strives to improve productivity by something like the 20 per cent increase seen in the past year.

Some gains can be won through technological change. But the decisive factor in British Coal's battle to become competitive with imported coal is likely to be the reform of working practices.

A coal privatisation bill, to be announced in the autumn Queen's speech, will include provisions to change the laws governing miners' shift length, and British Coal is pressing the Health and Safety Executive for an early change in safety regulations, which give pit deputies a dual role as both production overseer and safety supervisor. Both measures will be fiercely opposed by Arthur Scargill's

NUM and Nacods, the pit deputies' union, with serious conflict possible.

Mr Clarke points to the improvements that have been achieved at the Asfordby mine, under development in Leicestershire. Separating the deputies' functions has, he says, cut deputy absenteeism from 11 to less than 1 per cent, and six-day working has been introduced, which allows miners one week off in four.

But he is blunt in his warnings about what will happen if such changes are not achieved quickly. "Unless we get on with it," he says, "additional pits will be forced to close because their costs are too high."

If productivity improvements can be achieved, Mr Clarke is confident that British Coal can get its production costs down within four years to 115p a gigajoule — the level widely considered essential if British Coal is to be commercially viable. There will be profits before then — of a sort.

Even under its new sales contract with the electricity generating companies, which entails a cut in the price of coal, British Coal believes it should achieve an operating profit in the current year. But there will be no repeat of the bottom-line profit that put British Coal back in the black for the past two years. Further massive restructuring costs, for which British Coal will have to turn to the government to fund, will once more leave a lot of red ink on the accounts.

The question marks over the future of the 12 pits supposedly re-privatised by the white paper are as large as ever. Independent analysis suggests the amount of coal the generators can burn from British mines over the next two years is little more than 16 million tonnes.

Mr Clarke says that is probably "in the middle" of the predictions, though he agrees "the generators are stuffed to the gills with coal, and they want to run their stocks down". While the two one-day strikes by the NUM against pit closures have been a marginal help, easing back on stockpiling a little, with more pits in production than British Coal would have wished, the corporation's own stocks are headed only one way — up.

The time envisaged for market testing means that serious talks between British Coal and the generators over additional sales from the mines concerned are unlikely to reach any conclusion before the autumn, and Mr Clarke accepts that only then, when the market and price is clear, will a proper figure emerge on the subsidy needed to allow the corporation to compete at a world coal price.

All of this is relatively long-term, keeping the future of the coal industry as a political issue for some time to come. Mr Clarke is cagey about his future, ducking questions about whether he will head a British Coal in the private sector by saying: "I was appointed for five years, with no reversion for good conduct," but adding: "I see my job as to take it to privatisation."

But Mr Clarke knows that the length of political rope available to him and British Coal is far from endless. The white paper scathingly noted British Coal's failure to adapt itself in the three-year period provided for post-electricity privatisation by the contracts with the generators, and emphasised that "British Coal's failure to take full advantage of this opportunity, and its lack of competitiveness in world terms, lie at the heart of the current problem."

So though the heat on coal is not as intense as it was, Mr Clarke knows the political clock is still running. The struggle for survival may have been passed. The struggle for markets is still on.

TEMPUS

Rhapsody in grey

THE Stock Exchange seemed like an anti-market killjoy on Friday when it lent on Salomon Brothers to close its grey markets in Zeneca and New-ICI shares. The exchange has always been reluctant to sanction pre-issue trading, despite the City's obvious enthusiasm for the opportunities it offers.

On this occasion, the exchange's action was right for the wrong reasons. Since the exchange has forbidden its member firms to trade in grey markets, much of the City was barred from dealing in the new prices. The unregulated subsidiary used by Salomon was therefore operating an unrepresentative market. A determined bout of selling by institutions could have driven the Zeneca price down sharply and caused trouble for ICI's advisers when they priced the £1.3 billion rights issue. To Salomon's credit, this never happened. The firm had reasonable two-way business and the price for Zeneca remained extremely stable at about 700p. More encouraging is

the exchange's willingness to examine the future of grey markets in general.

A fully authorised, liquid, grey market would be a far more accurate assistance in pricing an issue than the current system, which involves the brokers having soft-soled chats with leading institutions. It is a method already employed to great effect in gilt auctions.

The exchange has permitted "when issued" trading in the past, when there is no new equity to be priced, or where American or European stock markets have forced its hands by allowing it. But it still seems opposed to grey markets in new issues, claiming that investors are taking an unacceptable risk in selling shares that they may not be allotted.

When the exchange reviews its policies towards grey markets, it should consider its duty to reflect the needs and demands of its members, rather than react instinctively against innovation.

Help for Gemms

THE Bank of England's concession to gilt-edged market makers (Gemms), which allows them to use temporary subordinated debt to fund their trading operations, highlights the market's growing capital shortage.

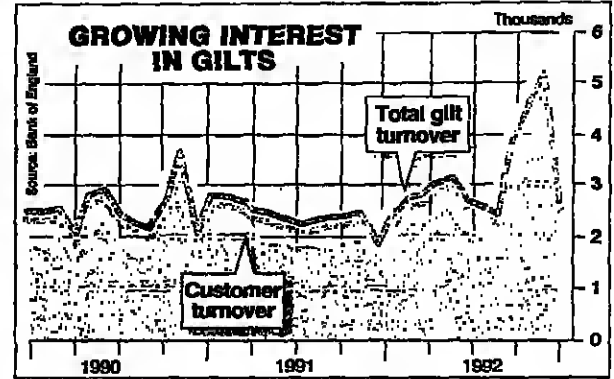
The shortage seems pervasive in the extreme: in 1986 banks and brokers threw capital at the market as it was about to shrink, and lost £190 million in little more than a year. This year, the total gilt stock is likely to expand by a third to nearly £200 billion, yet firms seem reluctant to take advantage of the opportunity.

At least one more overseas institution has applied to become a Gemm and others may be planning to follow. But there are still only 19 Gemms, eight fewer than in 1986, and the market's total

capital is £521 million, 12 per cent less than seven years ago.

The Bank is naturally anxious that there are enough well-capitalised Gemms to ensure the gilt market stays as liquid as possible. If not, its monthly £3 billion auctions will become steadily more arduous as Gemms are forced to scale down bids to match their resources. The

admission of temporary subordinated debt is intended as a means to tempt firms to inject more permanent capital into their gilt-trading businesses. Sensible financial institutions should not need too much persuasion to do this. The Gemms made operating profits of £65 million last year and a 15 per cent post-tax return.



China

THE decision by the American authorities to allow institutions to invest in Chinese equities is a further step in Peking's attempts to develop its private sector by attracting foreign capital, but a move that may already be out of date.

China has tremendous appeal for Western investors. Jupiter Tyndall is launching the first investment trust dedicated to the country. It is raising up to £16.2 million for its new China Investment Trust from a placing and a paper bid for a more general Asia trust.

Institutions are so keen to capitalise on China's economic growth that demand far outstrips the supply of suitable investments. More than \$1.5 billion has been subscribed to the various funds in the past year, even though the total capitalisation of the foreign shares on the Shenzhen and Shanghai markets is barely \$1.2 billion.

Despite the excitement and

this overhang of capital, Chinese share prices have retreated from their early unsustainable levels.

The recent poor performance of Shenzhen's market also suggests it is turning into an investment backwater rather than a frontier. The decision by the Chinese authorities to issue shares in time of their largest companies on the Hong Kong market shows they had no faith in their local operations to handle such issues.

The nine issues, which start in June, are expected to raise up to \$500 million in new capital. If the Hong Kong market succeeds in handling them, it is likely to become the main conduit for foreign investment. Trusts like Jupiter Tyndall will no longer have to leave Hong Kong to invest in the dragon.

McCarthy & Stone

McCarthy & Stone is virtually the sole survivor in the sheltered housing business,

but the lack of competition does nothing to help the market, which is still in the doldrums. McCarthy is locked into the fortunes of the housing market. Its customers are home owners who need to sell before they can buy McCarthy's product.

Signs of life in the property market are unlikely to provide a quick fix. The home is often the nest-egg of the elderly owners and the housing market collapse means a substantial part of that equity has been eroded, making a move to sheltered accommodation more difficult.

McCarthy made profits of £34 million at its peak in 1988, but has suffered losses over the past three years. While the recovery in the sheltered housing market will not be quick, the rising number of elderly people suggest this remains a growth market.

Thanks to the recession, McCarthy now dominates its industry and is well placed to benefit when its would-be customers can finally sell up and move.

FRIENDS PROVIDENT

NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 16th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF FRIENDS' PROVIDENT LIFE OFFICE will be held at GLAZIERS HALL, 9 MONTAGUE CLOSE, LONDON BRIDGE, LONDON, SE1 9DD, ON WEDNESDAY 26th MAY 1993 at 2.30p.m. to transact the following business:

(1) To receive the Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st December 1992 and the Reports of the Directors and Auditors thereon.

(2) To re-elect as Directors of the Office the following Directors, who retire by rotation:
Peter Silvester Sir Anthony Touche Bt.
John Whitney Lyn Wilson

(3) To elect the following Directors who have been appointed since the last Annual General Meeting:

Oluf von Lowzow Keith Satchell

(4) To re-appoint Price Waterhouse as the auditors to the Office and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.

By Order of the Directors,
B.W. SWEETLAND, Secretary
4th May 1993

Friends' Provident Life Office,
Pixham End,
Dorking, Surrey, RH4 1QA

NOTES

(a) A Member is entitled to appoint another person (who need not be a Member) to attend the above meeting and vote instead of him.

(b) To be valid the instrument appointing a proxy, which should be as near to the form set out in rule 30 of the Rules of the Office as circumstances admit, and the power of attorney or other authority (if any) under which it is signed, or a notarially certified copy of that power or authority, must be deposited at Pixham End, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 1QA, not less than 48 hours before the time fixed for holding the meeting, or adjourned meeting, or, in the case of a poll, not less than twenty-four hours before the time appointed for the taking of the poll.

(c) Proxy forms may be obtained on application to the Secretary.

(d) Members intending to attend and vote personally at the meeting should be prepared to quote their policy numbers.

(e) Only Members are entitled to vote. Certain policyholders are not Members. If a policyholder who is not also a Member completes and returns a form of proxy, it will not be counted.

(f) Members have one vote each irrespective of the number of policies held.

(g) Members are entitled, on application to the Secretary, to receive a copy of the Report and Accounts.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Retiring Buckland

TERRY Buckland, the larger-than-life dealer who became one of the City's most respected fund managers during his 34-year career at Phillips & Drew, has fulfilled another of his ambitions: to retire at 50. Dealing director of P&D Fund Management and chairman of the Stock Exchange Veterans' Club, Buckland cleared his desk on Friday. "Of course, I'll miss it, but I've still got lots of lunches and dinners coming up. Now I can still do the social thing without getting up at 5.30 am each morning," Buckland, whose career began at 16 in the P&D statistics department, says. "I've known people who've ended up in Ford Open Prison and I've met the Prince of Wales — not bad for someone who started life in a council house in southeast London!" he says. Buckland plans to reduce his golf handicap, resume oil painting and savour the wines at The Place, his new restaurant in Kent — when he is not relaxing to Minorca, that is. David Gold, a dealer on the US desk, takes over Buckland's job at the newly-named UBS.

Eye for art

FINE art aficionados normally based at the bomb-damaged NatWest tower might find aesthetic fulfilment at a neighbouring outpost. As 98 paintings by such artists as Ivon Hitchens, Gilbert and George, David Hockney, John Piper and Patrick Caulfield await re-banging in NatWest's glassless shell, Jon-

athan Noakes, corporate art consultant, is trying to persuade Harry Morton, the bank's art expert, to buy more paintings for its new NatWest Markets complex at 135 Bishopsgate. Art for Offices, Noakes's firm, has sold 38 paintings for £15,000 to NatWest, complementing the 40 works accumulated over the years by the Bloomsbury Group. "Even then," says Noakes, "I got the job up from the £1,400 I was originally told was their budget limitation." The new selection may include one or two by either Andrew Cranston or Sam Brooks, joint winners of the NatWest Nineties Prize for Art announced on Friday.

Levitt-ation

ARTHUR Levitt, former chairman of the American Stock Exchange, has won his second run at heading the all-powerful Securities & Exchange Commission. Briefly considered for the job under

Ronald Reagan, Levitt has now been appointed by President Clinton to replace Richard Breen. The top runner for the job had been Consuela Washington, a White House aide, after last month's controversy over Levitt's purchase of the twice-weekly Washington newspaper Roll Call. He denied allegations that his 1986 purchase of the paper came as a result of confidential information gained while negotiating a separate deal, and then surfaced as a surprise candidate for the SEC job.

CORNEY & Barrow has caught the wartime spirit. Today, it reopens the 120-year-old bar at 109 Old Broad St which survived the blitz but suffered from the IRA bomb attack. Peter Mockford, the manager, plans to bounce back by offering his customers large spirits and mixers at the price they would have paid 13 years ago when he joined. A large GST, normally £3.10, will sell for just 85p.

Coin aid

A LEGAL tender coin is in circulation depicting a view of Sarajevo with a Dove of Peace flying over its skyline. But there is more to the coins than meets the eye. Put into circulation six weeks ago by Pobjoy Mint, recently appointed as the first official mint of the National Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the coins carry a surcharge that is automatically shared out between Unicef and the Red Cross. The proceeds will be channelled to relieve the suffering of civilians caught in the crossfire.

MELINDA WITTSTOCK

BUSINESS LETTERS

Long wait for liquidator working in letter, not in spirit

From M.R. Buchanan

Sir, In these glad end-of-recession times, spare a thought for the unsecured creditors of companies in liquidation.

Many of us have been waiting for more than two years for our meagre dividends to be salvaged from the

wreckage. In my case, after 13 months with the receiver, the remaining funds were passed to the liquidator. Fifteen months later, we appear to be no nearer a settlement. The excuse is always that they are waiting on 14-day letters to be replied to.

Am I alone in being able to work out that there is time in

15 months to write 30 consecutive 14-day letters? And does this mean that liquidators work at only 3.33 per cent efficiency?

Yours faithfully,
ARCHIE BUCHANAN,
Dragons,
Bledlow Ridge,
High Wycombe,
Buckinghamshire.

Gross exaggeration of 'high' interest

From Mr Francis O. J. Otway

Sir, I am curious to know your definition of "high interest". Would it include a gross rate of 3.60 per cent (net 2.70 per cent)? Would it go further down as far as a gross rate of

2.20 per cent (net 1.65 per cent)? I would be surprised if your definition included such low values. Yet I have received this week from Barclays Bank an invitation to open one of their Prime Accounts with these magnificent "high levels of interest". While I appreciate these rates are substantially higher than the pitiful rates

paid on accounts such as the Lloyds Bank Classic Account, to call them high-interest accounts is very misleading. Yours faithfully,
FRANCIS O. J. OTWAY,
Corvax,
Cotswold Mead,
Painswick,
Stroud,
Gloucestershire.

Penningtons

We are glad to announce that from today - Tuesday 4th May - the firm will be operating from:

Royex House
Aldermanbury Square
London EC2V 7HD
Tel: 071-457 3000
Fax: 071-457 3240

The speed with which we have been able to establish ourselves in these new premises is due in no small measure to the help we have received from all our professional colleagues.

مركز الأعمال

CHANNEL 4

CHANNEL 4

9.00 Without Walls: Souled Out. Journalist Tom Parson's polemic on pop music (1075). Followed at 9.30 by **Master Show's Missing Millions**. In McKellan plays the part of the playwright in investigation into what happened to the money he will not tell the cause of (Revised) (50194723)

10.00 Film: The Stepford Wives (1975) stars Katharine Ross. The *Movie Nightmares* series continues with this thriller about the curious contented wives of a suburban American town. Directed by Bryan Forbes (Teletext) (50194723)

12.15am Dream On. Adult comedy about the love life of a New York publisher (In, Teletext) (29018)


12.45 Deep Blues. A tribute to the music of Mississippi Delta (1 p.c.) (507722)

1.45 The Net King Cole Show (b/w). With guest singer Gogi Grant (40601) Ends at 2.15

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of thousands of refugees in Bosnia will start to this week unless food and funds reach the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) commissioner, Mrs. Ogata, is making an urgent appeal for food aid for Bosnia. "In Bosnia and Herzegovina millions of persons depend upon international assistance for survival. The present shortage of resources puts their lives at great risk."

A warehouse holding supplies for central Bosnia, in the Bosnian-Croatian border, is almost empty. The international community responds immediately to the crisis: food and funds stocks will run out within a few days. UN convoys have already been halted because of lack of fuel.

from gov
organiza

OUR HELP IS NEEDED

_____ like to make a donation of:
£50 _____ £25 _____ £10 _____ other £ _____
cheques payable to WomenAid/
to make my gift by Visa/Access
[]
_____ name _____ Card Expiry Date: _____
_____ address please! _____
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WomenAid 3 Whitehall Court, London SW1A 2EL
839 1790 Reg. Charity No. 299224 Founded 1987

OpenAid/UNHCR Appeal

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

Yes, I would like to make a donation of:
£100 _____ £50 _____ £25 _____ £10 _____ other £ _____
(Please make cheques payable to WomenAid)
I would like to make my gift by Visa/Acces
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C/holder's Signature: _____ Card Expiry Date: _____
Name (Block letters please) _____
Address: _____
Postcode: _____
Post to: WomenAid 3 Whitehall Court, London SW1A 2EL
Tel: 071 839 1790 Reg. Charity No. 269224 Founded 1987

WomenAid/UNHCR Appeal

BUSINESS

TUESDAY MAY 4 1993



Wheels of industry: inspection time for tyres of the giant dump trucks at R. J. Budge Mining opencast site at Colliersdean, Northumberland, yesterday

RJB Mining digs in for £100m flotation

By GEORGE SIVELL, CITY EDITOR

DRAFT flotation details are expected this week for RJB Mining, the coal contractor bought out for £106 million from A. F. Budge, the road builder, in February last year, months before receivers went into A. F. Budge during December.

BZW, adviser to RJB, is expected to follow this week's draft prospectus with pricing of the issue on May 19.

Dealings in the shares are due to begin on June 10. RJB is likely to be valued at between £100 million and £120 million at the flotation price.

Richard Budge, chief executive of RJB and brother of Tony, who ran A. F. Budge, says the flotation proceeds will reduce debts at RJB to between 30 and 40 per cent of shareholders' funds.

His main aim is to take advantage of the recent white paper on the coal industry, which forces British Coal to offer unwanted pits for sale before closing them.

Mr Budge says he could be interested in a number of the 21 pits that British Coal is likely to sell. RJB will need to raise extra capital to finance these, on top of the flotation

proceeds. He believes that the pits on British Coal's closure list produce a high proportion of coal suitable for domestic and industrial customers, rather than to electricity generators, creating a new market for coal of which he can take advantage.

Opencast coal is vital to RJB. Out of operating profits of £20 million at RJB last year, opencast mining produced £16.3 million. Out of 11 opencast sites, nine are authorised contracts from British Coal. BZW wrote in a recent study of RJB that profits on British Coal contracts in 1993 will be suppressed.

The flotation details are unlikely to include a profits forecast for this year. For 1992, RJB's annual report shows a pre-tax profit of £11 million on sales of £74 million.

The report also shows that £388,793 was paid to Mr Richard Budge for 1992. This will be cut to £225,000 in 1993, say advisers, although Mr Budge will be compensated by dividends he receives on the 16-18 per cent of the company he will hold on flotation. He took 20 per cent in last year's management buyout.

Coal chief gives pit 'pillaging' warning

By PHILIP BASSETT
AND ROSS TIEMAN

BRITISH Coal will refuse to let private companies take over redundant mines unless it is convinced that they plan a long-term life for the pits. It will also revoke the firms' licence to run the mines if it finds they are not sticking to the long-term approach.

British Coal's stance was signalled by Neil Clarke, chairman, in an interview with *The Times*. He said the move was essential to prevent private sector companies taking over mines on a "rape and pillage" basis.

But by making it clear both that private mine contractors will be rigorously examined prior to any mining licences being granted, and their subsequent operations policed closely, BC may deter some potential applicants from taking their interest further.

Even so, BC is likely to move quickly towards licensing, which has been provided for since the government's coal review decided that each of the 18 pits where production is to cease must first be offered to the private sector.

Bids will be invited within the next few weeks for the first to be licensed — Keresley near Coventry, and the Francis colliery in Scotland, both pits where mining has ceased.

Mr Clarke said: "We would not be happy about someone taking on a pit on a rape and pillage basis — destroying the long life of a pit by squeezing coal out very quickly on a low cost basis." If any company did operate in that way, in spite of having giving undertakings not to do so, Mr Clarke said BC would have no hesitation in revoking their licences.

He said that more than 20 private groups had expressed interest so far in the surplus collieries, although they did not include large-scale international mining bodies.

Clock still ticking, page 38

Lenders may raise cash by selling on mortgages

By LINDSAY COOK
MONEY EDITOR

BILLIONS of pounds of mortgages could be up for sale from later this year if the housing market recovery in Britain gets under way.

Building societies, which have so far shied away from selling on their mortgage books, are now being forced to look at this alternative way of raising money to fund their future lending.

Barclays has already sold on £175 million of loans and may sell on others. Nationwide, Skipton, Bristol & West, Leeds and Cheltenham & Gloucester have all sought permission from their borrowers to securitise loans to other institutions. Lloyds Bank estimates that about 40 per cent of its £6 billion mortgage book has given permission to securitise.

Building society plans to finance new loans by selling on their existing mortgage books to other institutions could lead to a cutback in their branch networks

Building societies are limited by law to using only wholesale markets to fund 40 per cent of their loans. However, net funds coming in from savers shrank to £295 million last year compared with £5.8 billion in 1991. This means they have to look at other ways of financing new loans if they are to benefit from any increased activity in the housing market. Savings inflows improved in the first three months of the year but not enough to fund a normal housing market.

Many of the leading mortgage lenders already have a clause in their mortgage offer

document or on their loan application forms permitting them to sell on loans to other financial institutions. In some cases, loans dating back to 1987 could be securitised, without consulting the borrowers concerned. Nationwide, Skipton, Bristol & West building societies were among the first to start obtaining permission. They have been followed by the Cheltenham & Gloucester and Leeds Permanent. The Big Four banks ask permission from new borrowers to sell on loans. The code of practice of the Council of Mortgage Lenders states that

loans can be sold on only with the borrower's consent.

Borrowers will notice little difference. While the ownership of the loan might change, they would still deal with the original lender, pay at the same rate as customers of the building society or bank they borrowed from and would not be treated any differently from other customers if they had payment problems or wanted to pay off the loan.

There are cost-saving implications for societies in securitisation. If they can raise money in this way they could cut branches, primarily used by savers. Through securitisation, societies can lend to new customers while keeping existing ones, thus widening their customer base and increasing insurance and other business.

Adrian Coles, spokesman for the Building Societies As-

sociation said: "People are looking at securitisation to see if they can do it. It is sensible for any building society to diversify its sources of funding into three instead of two."

C & G, the sixth largest society which got 24 per cent of its funding from the wholesale market last year, said: "We would possibly like to securitise some time. We have staff working on it." The Leeds, which also reported a wholesale figure of 24 per cent and has sought permission in mortgage documents since January, said: "Mortgage-backed securities are nothing new and are, potentially, an option available to us."

Duncan Young, of the Household Mortgage Corporation, said there were institutional investors ready to buy tranches of mortgages as the property market picked up.

Small firms call for finance to sustain recovery

By PATRICIA TEHAN, JANET BUSH AND PHILIP PANGLOS

THE Confederation of British Industry has given a warning that unless sufficient finance is made available to smaller firms, their ability to lead the economy out of recession will be seriously hampered.

According to its quarterly *Smaller Firms Trends Survey* published today, the CBI found that small manufacturers were beginning to lead the economy out of recession, with the first improvement in output for three years. A net 4 per cent of companies reported an increase in output and a positive balance of 21 per cent predicted an improvement in the next four months.

However, Richard Bruciani, chairman of the CBI's smaller firms council, said: "To sustain this recovery, it is now essential that there is sufficient finance available to allow smaller businesses to grow and increase their productivity and efficiency." He said that if small firms' difficulties in raising finance continued, it would "seriously limit their performance and hamper plans for investment and expansion."

David Kern, chief economist of National Westminster Bank, said that business should be helped over the next few years by relatively low interest rates. He believes that base rates will drop to 5.5 per cent in the middle of this year as German interest rates continue to fall and sterling remains resilient.

He predicts that base rates will rise back to 7 per cent in the final months of this year, as underlying inflation temporarily breaks out of the top of the government's 1 per cent to 4 per cent target range. Mr Kern then expects inflation to

fall back into target and base rates to average 6.6 per cent between 1994 and 1998. Smaller companies, in spite of their problems in obtaining finance for expansion, still appear to be more optimistic about future prospects than larger firms.

The survey shows business optimism was at a six-year high, with a positive balance of 33 per cent of smaller firms saying they were more optimistic than they were four months ago. The biggest improvement in orders came from export markets, where more small firms were able to raise prices rather than cut them — for the first time in two years.

The survey of 798 manufacturing firms employing fewer than 200 people, which was conducted between March 26 and April 14, found that job losses would continue, although the rate was slowing. A small majority of small firms expect to take on more staff over the next four months, the first expected increase since October 1989.

Another sign of rising business confidence came from KPMG Corporate Finance, whose figures show that there were 16 new listings on the stock market in the first three months of this year compared with 12 in the comparable period last year.

Neil Austin, KPMG's head of new issues, said: "This increase in activity is an indication of greater optimism of British business and certainly there are a good deal more companies interested in a flotation than at this time last year." He said he was hopeful that new issue activity would return at least to 1991 levels.

Breaking for the stock market

By OUR CITY STAFF

BREAK for the Border, the London Tex/Mex restaurants and live music venue group, is seeking a stock market flotation. The group, which plans to take its successful recipe overseas, wants to raise £2.3 million via a placing by Fiske & Co, the broker, at 45p a share.

The group, which also owns the Borderline music venue, will use the proceeds to invest and to promote bands. It plans to open a combined Break for the Border/Borderline in New York this year, followed by Paris, Madrid, Berlin and other European cities. The international expansion will be initially financed through the company's strong cash flow and joint ventures or franchises.

Ian Howard, chief executive, and John Northcote, marketing and entertainment

director, are the driving force behind the group. Mr Howard made his name from building up a chain of record stores which he sold to WH Smith in the mid-1980s and was then involved in the acquisition and build-up of the Our Price music chain. Both men have experience and good connections in the music business. Bands such as REM, Lenny Kravitz, Debbie Harry, Sister Sledge and Tasmin Archer have appeared at the Borderline.

After a bumpy start in the late 1980s, Mr Howard has been able to eliminate Break for the Border's borrowings of £1.25 million and turn losses into expanding profits of £477,000 in the year to end-March. Turnover advanced 40 per cent last year, to about £4.25 million.

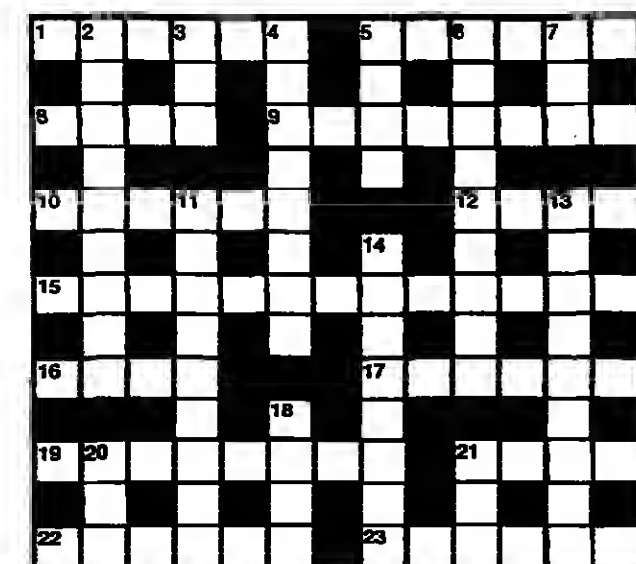


Crossing borders: Northcote seeks expansion abroad

Bank moves to boost cash in gilts

THE Bank of England has made an important concession to gilt-edged market-makers to ease a shortage of market capital which could threaten their chances of funding the £50 billion Budget deficit (Neil Bennett writes).

Market-makers can now use temporary subordinated debt for weeks, or days, to expand operations when trading volumes are high, particularly during the Bank's gilt auctions of at least £3 billion each month. Capital employed by each market-maker determines the size of the positions it can take. Without sufficient capital, market-makers would find it hard to trade large quantities of gilts with institutions, and the market would become less liquid.



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CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 3087

ACROSS

- 1 Shill yelp (6)
- 5 Fiercely indignant (6)
- 8 State of mind (4)
- 9 Without difficulty (4,4)
- 10 Nail driver (6)
- 12 Clothes (4)
- 15 Settle amicably (4,3,4,2)
- 16 Creep (4)
- 17 Competitor (6)
- 19 Musical whistles (3,5)
- 21 Ballot (4)
- 22 Ten pound note (6)
- 23 Cheap, showy (6)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 3086

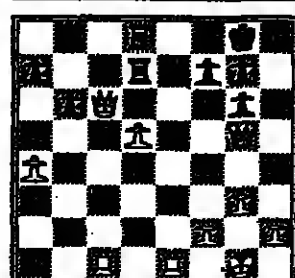
- ACROSS: 1 Undeniable 8 Valet 9 Axillae 10 His 11 Romeo 12 Halfwit 14 Elapse 16 Abuser 20 Okinawa 23 Ideal 24 Son 25 Drivers 26 Get to 27 Right of appeal
- DOWN: 1 Inverted order 2 Dilemma 3 Fathoms 4 Trashy 5 Grill 6 Below 7 Electoral roll 13 Flu 15 Pin 17 Bring up 18 Spectre 19 Massif 21 Icing 22 Alert

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

This position is from the game Alekhine — Colle, Paris 1925. With his three-fold attack on the white d-pawn, black may have been feeling optimistic about his chances. If so, Alekhine's next move would have swiftly disillusioned him. What did he play?

Solution on page 37



Championship Chess, page 8

WORD-WATCHING

- By PHILIP HOWARD
- LEGLEN
a. A milk pail
b. A French valley
c. A crutch
- MICHE
a. A sliding turn
b. Mischief
c. A loaf of bread

- CLERETE
a. A share-holder
b. Glory
c. A type of slip-knot
- CROCKARD
a. A kind of pancake
b. A hypochondriac
c. Base money

Answers on page 37